

# PONCE DE LEON INLET IGHT STATION

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

#### Dear Members and Ponce Inlet Residents,

The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association has dedicated itself to the preservation and dissemination of the maritime and social history of the historic Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station since its founding in 1972. Through the years, the Association has endeavored to restore this once dilapidated facility to its former glory, to educate the public about the Station's unique role in state and local history, and to preserve the site for present and future generations with little or no financial support from local, state, or federal agencies.

Recognizing the importance of the Lighthouse within the Ponce Inlet community and the sense of pride that is shared by many in the Town's ownership of this National Historic Landmark, the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association Board of Trustees passed a motion in December, 2010, to provide Ponce Inlet residents easier access to this National Historic Landmark. Beginning January 1, 2010, all full- and part-time residents will be allowed to visit the Lighthouse and museum year-round, free of charge.

In addition to offering free admission to the Light Station, the Preservation Association will also provide Ponce Inlet residents with complimentary copies of this year's April and July newsletters. Normally mailed to Association members only, it is the Board's hope that Ponce Inlet residents will enjoy this informative publication and join the Association in its ongoing mission to preserve this important site. Benefits of membership include continued receipt of the quarterly newsletter, discounts on the purchase of merchandise in our maritime and lighthouse themed Gift Shop, invitations to member-only events, and more. Please remember that residency does not include membership, so please join today.

Some of you may be aware of recent allegations levied against the Association by a small, but vocal group of individuals. The lead article appearing in this issue is the first

**PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION STAFF** 

in a series that will explore the history of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station, its transfer to the Town of Ponce Inlet, deed restrictions that govern the use and management of the Lighthouse Reservation, and the good works accomplished by the Preservation Association in the past thirty-eight years.

Please take the time to read these articles and develop a better understanding of the Lighthouse, its history, and the Association that has managed the site since its acquisition by the Town in 1972. Your continued support and understanding of the Lighthouse's ongoing operations is of paramount importance to everyone who is actively involved in its continued preservation.

To keep you, our members and residents, better informed of ongoing projects, exhibit openings, upcoming events, educational workshops, special programs, and sales events, the Preservation Association would like to provide members and residents occasional "Ponce e-news" reports. Sent via email, these reports will provide recipients with updates regarding activities at the Lighthouse and within the community.

Ponce Inlet residents who are interested in receiving these periodic updates should contact the Preservation Association at resident@ponceinlet.org. Members are encouraged to do the same at member@ ponceinlet.org. Your email address and personal information will be protected and used only by the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse in the manner described above.

The Preservation Association would like to thank all of its members, supporters, and volunteers for their past, current, and future support. Without you, the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association would not exist.

Respectfully,

MAINTENANCE DEPT.

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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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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.

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# **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Apr 18, 2011	Board of Trustees and	
Monday	Quarterly Membership Meeting	
	Quarterly membership meeting	

May 16, 2011 Board of Trustees Meeting MONDAY

June 20, 2011 Board of Trustees Meeting MONDAY

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE GIFT SHOP CONFERENCE ROOM.

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# LIGHTHOUSE EVENTS APRIL–JUNE 2011

#### Apr 16 (Sat) Florida Lighthouse Day Help us celebrate Florida's surviving historic lighthouses on April 16th from 10:00 to 2:00. Enjoy family-oriented activities, live demonstrations, and kid's crafts. Test your knowledge about

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**MAY 13** 

6:00 - 9:00 PM

MAY 14

6:00 - 9:00 РМ

**MAY 18** 

(SAT)

 $(\mathbf{FRI})$ 

Lighthouse and answer the question: "What is a crystal radio?" Learn about the Cape Canaveral First Order Fresnel Lens and talk with 1930s-era lighthouse keepers and they perform routine maintenance on the historic lens. All activities are included with the price of regular admission. No advance reservations required. Ponce Inlet Resident and

# PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION MEMBER FAMILY NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

Florida's many lighthouses by taking the Florida Lighthouse Challenge. Climb to the top of the

Experience the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse at night! Enjoy family-oriented activities, workshops, and more! Tour the historic light station and climb the tower to experience the Lighthouse in all its glory. Normally closed to public after 6:00 PM from Labor Day through Memorial Day, the Lighthouse will be open until 9:00 PM for this unique event. Admission to the May 13th event is reserved for Ponce Inlet residents and Association members only.

Space is limited to 200 participants only so advance registration is required. Families interested in attending the May 13th Family Night at the Museum event are encouraged to contact Mary Clancy via email at rsvp@ponceinlet.org.

# **GENERAL ADMISSION FAMILY NIGHT** AT THE MUSEUM

Experience the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse at night! Enjoy family-oriented activities, workshops, and more! Tour the historic Ponce Inlet Light Station and climb the tower to experience the Lighthouse in all its glory. Normally closed to public after 6:00 PM from Labor Day through Memorial Day, the Lighthouse will be open until 9:00 PM for this unique event. Admission to the May 14th event is open to all interested parties.

Non-Member/Non-Resident Admission rates are \$5 for adults and \$1.50 for children 11 and under. Association members and Ponce Inlet residents are admitted free of charge. Space is limited to 200 participants only so advance registration is required. Families interested in attending the May 14th Family Night at the Museum event are encouraged to contact Mary Clancy via email at rsvp@ponceinlet.org.

## INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY

What does it take to transform a derelict lighthouse into a pristine and highly efficient world-class museum? Visit the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse on May 18th between the hours of 10:00 and 2:00 learn how. Participate in mini-tours led by the Curator, Restoration Specialist, Programs Manager, and knowledgeable volunteers. Take in an entertaining and educational workshop and marvel at the scope of this remarkable National Historic Landmark. All activities are included with the price of regular admission. No advance registration required. For more information, contact Program Manager Bob Callister at 386-761-1821 ext. 18 or via email at bobcallister@ponceinlet.org.

# CANAVERAL LENS DEMONSTRATION

Meet the Old Lighthouse Keeper in the Lens Exhibit Building. Learn about the Cape Canaveral 1st Order Fresnel Lens and the routine maintenance procedures that ensured the historic lens would continue operating night after night. All activities included with regular admission. No advance reservations required.

# CLIMB TO THE MOON EVENT CALENDAR

Apr 17 (Sun) 6:30 - 8:30 РМ

May 17 (Tue) 7:15 - 9:15 PM

UN IS (WED) 7:15 - 9:15 PM

Journey to the top of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and experience this National Historic Landmark in all its glory. Join the Old Lighthouse Keeper on a personal tour of the Lighthouse and Lantern Room, and enjoy breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean, Ponce Inlet, and scenic inland waterways.

Toast the setting sun with a sparkling beverage and enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres by the light of the full moon with your significant other and friends. Offered only on the eve of each full moon, this special event is limited to 25 participants only. Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling Mary at (386) 761-1821 ext. 10. Prices are \$25 for non-members and \$20 for members

## 2011 Spring & Summer Lighthouse Hours

## Normal Hours of Operation

SEP 7, 2010- MAY 29, 2011 Open daily from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

(last admission at 5:00 p.m.) MAY 30, 2011- SEP 5, 2011 Open daily from 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. (last admission at 8:00 p.m.)

# Special Hours of Operation

May 27, 28, 29, 2011 (FRI., SAT., & SUN.)

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND Open daily from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. (last admission at 6:00 p.m.)

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(WED) 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM MAY 27 &

**JUNE 24** 

1:00 - 2:00 PM

 $(\mathbf{FRI})$ 

# THE PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION: 38 YEARS OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

C ompleted in 1887, the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station is home to Florida's tallest lighthouse. Widely regarded as one of the nation's best preserved historic light stations, the tower's brilliant beacon has guided mariners for more than 120 years.

Once called the Mosquito Inlet Light Station (the area was renamed Ponce de Leon Inlet in the 1920s) the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station was originally manned and operated by the United States Light House Establishment (USLHE). From 1887 to 1939, the tower's beacon was meticulously maintained by lighthouse keepers who ensured that the light was lit every evening and that that it remained lit throughout the night regardless of weather. Like the Greek couriers made famous by the ancient historian Herodotus, "Neither snow, nor rain, nor beat, nor gloom of night (could stay) the courageous (keeper) from the swift completion of bis appointed rounds".



The Second Assistant Keeper's Dwelling as it appeared in 1972



The Second Assistant Keeper's Dwelling Following Restoration  $% \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{A}}^{(n)}$ 

Maintained by the United States Light House Establishment for over fifty years, responsibility for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station was transferred to the United States Coast Guard following the dissolution of the Lighthouse Service in 1939. Although no longer maintained by civilian keepers, the Light Station continued to function as a manned facility until the beacon was automated in 1953. With no resident keepers to maintain the beacon on a daily basis, the Coast Guard reclassified the Ponce Inlet Light Station as an unmanned facility, transferred the personnel stationed there to other billets, and turned over responsibility for the beacon's routine maintenance to the Aids to Navigation (ATON) team attached to the Coast Guard station in New Smyrna Beach.



PONCE INLET LIGHT STATION IN THE LATE-1970S



AN OVERGROWN BRICK WALKWAY LEADS TO THE SEALED TOWER ENTRANCE IN 1972.



In 1972, access into the Lighthouse was achieved using an old fire truck

Although continuing to function as an active aid to navigation, infrequent maintenance and the harsh coastal environment exacted a hefty toll on the historic lighthouse which quickly fell into a state of disrepair. By the late 1960s, the once spotless facility which had served as a source of pride for so many over the years had entered a state of advanced decrepitude. When the Coast Guard decided to remove the tower's rotating Fresnel lens, lock the buildings, and decommission the Ponce Inlet Light Station altogether, the fate of the historic lighthouse seamed all but certain.

Abandoned by the US Government in 1970, the decommissioned Light Station fell prey to a wide-range of destructive forces including wind and weather, vandalism, theft, and more. Damages incurred during this time included bonfires lit in the tower's counter-weight well, vagrants breaking into the keeper's



The Lighthouse as it appeared in 1982



The historic Oil Storage House was burnt by vandals in 1970.



The Oil Storage House was restored by the Association in 1989.

dwellings, stolen artifacts, the burning down of the Oil Storage Building, and pieces of the rusted tower iron being thrown into the roofs of the buildings far below. In 1972, the site was listed as surplus property by the Department of the Interior and plans to demolish the historic Light Station for use as an artificial reef were reportedly discussed.

Concerned by the Light Station's advanced state of deterioration and alarmed by rumors that the buildings and tower might be torn down, Ponce Inlet residents petitioned the Town's Council to acquire the historic site from the US Coast Guard. The cash-strapped Council approved the request with stipulations; an outside group must be formed to manage and restore the site at little or no cost to the townand its residents.



The Entrance to the Lighthouse as it looks today

On June 2, 1972, the Department of the Interior officially transferred ownership of the Lighthouse Reservation to the Town of Ponce Inlet. Less than three weeks later on June 21, 1972, the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association was incorporated as a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Since that time, the Association has carried out all ongoing efforts to restore, preserve, and manage the historic reservation.

Sources for funding the Association's early restoration efforts were scarce. Financial resources were generated by donation drives, 25¢ admission fees, and the sale of homemade souvenirs. Receiving little to no monetary support at the local, state, or federal level, the Association gathered materials for ongoing restoration projects from a variety of sources including local businesses, its members' garages, and even trash bins. That these dedicated individuals were able to accomplish as much as they did given the Association's limited resources was nothing short of amazing.

Developing its expertise in restoration, marketing, and museum operations with each project completed, the Preservation Association matured, growing from allvolunteer group of concerned citizens into the professional organization that exists today. A summary of major restoration projects and capital improvements completed by the Preservation Association between 1972 and 2010 is as follows:

• **1973** The Preservation Association petitions the Coast Guard for the return of the tower's 1933 third order rotating Fresnel lens which is returned later

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#### Feature Article, continued

in the year, reassembled, and put on display.

- **1975** Volunteers stabilize the historic keeper's dwellings and construct a wooden main entrance building and gift shop.
- **1978** The tower's badly deteriorated metalwork is partially restored by the Association.
- **1982** The Lighthouse is partially restored by the Preservation Association.



The Lighthouse underwent partial restoration in 1982.



- **1989** The Oil Storage Building, partially destroyed by vandals in 1970, is restored by the Association using historic blueprints of the original structure
- **1989** The Second Assistant Keeper's Woodshed and Privy are restored and converted into the museum's Woodshed Theatre.
- **1992** The Preservation Association constructs a three-story main entrance building and Gift Shop modeled after a multi-family dwelling that was originally planned for the Mosquito Inlet Light Station.
- **1994** The Preservation Association begins to restore the historic Cape Canaveral first order rotating Fresnel lens which was removed from the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse due to



THE LIGHTHOUSE'S INTERIOR IN NEED OF RESTORATION



THE INTERIOR OF THE TOWER AFTER RESTORATION



Modeled after a multi-family dwelling that was never constructed, the Gift Shop was completed in 1992

damage sustained by rocket launches from Cape Kennedy and Patrick Air Force Base.

- **1995** The Ayres Davies Lens Exhibit building, named in honor of Ponce Inlet's first mayor and Association founding member, is constructed to house the Association's Fresnel lens collection and other lighthouse artifacts.
- **1997** The Preservation Association requests, and receives, the Ponce Inlet Light Station's original 1887 first order Fresnel lens from the US Coast Guard. Restoration work on the damaged lens is completed by the Association's lens restoration team in 2003.
- **1998** The Preservation Association petitions the United States Government to designate the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station as a historic landmark. Years of research, correspondence, and hard work pay off when the Light Station is officially designated a National Historic Landmark. It remains one of only ten lighthouses in the nation to have received this prestigious honor.
- 2000 After many years of fund-raising, a full restoration of the Lighthouse begins. The extensive project includes repairs to the entire brick structure, replacement of most of the tower's exterior iron work, restoration of the cupola roof, vent ball, lightning rod,



The Tower underwent a complete restoration in 2002





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lantern room, interior spaces, spiral staircase, and a new paint job.

- 2001 The Preservation Association constructs a new three-story building to house the administrative staff and maintenance department, assorted equipment, archival documents, and artifacts not on display.
- 2002 The Association stabilizes the First Assistant Keeper's woodshed/ privy/radio room after its foundation is threatened by a recently dug retention pond in the park adjacent to the Light Station.
- 2004 The Preservation Association restores the tower's historic third order rotating Fresnel lens and reinstalls it in the Lantern Room. The US Coast Guard designates The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse an active private aid to navigation, maintained solely by the Preservation Association.
- 2005 The Association constructs a new public restroom facility and group tour entrance to accommodate the museum's growing number of annual visitors.
- 2007 The Preservation Association recreates the historic Coast Guard-era Radio Room and begins a long-term multi-year project to restore all of the Light Station's structures. This work includes both interior and exterior masonry repairs, interior plaster work, and restoration of each building's historic woodwork elements.
- 2008 The Preservation Association restores the Second Assistant Keeper's kitchen, living room, and small bedroom. The lens restoration team restores a rare third-middle Fresnel lens which is placed on public display in the Ayres Davies Lens Exhibit Building.
- 2009 The Principal Keeper's kitchen is restored and becomes home to the museum's new USLHE Airways Division exhibit.
- **2010** A two year, multi-phased project to fully restore the tower's interior and exterior ironwork is completed.

Governed by the Board of Trustees and Advisory Committee, the Preservation Association has developed much during its 38+ years of dedicated stewardship. From its humble beginnings in 1972, the



The tower's exterior metalwork was restored between 2010 & 2011



The Ponce Inlet Light Station as it appears today

Association has grown to become one of the nation's most highly regarded lighthouse preservation groups. Although no longer a strictly volunteer organization, the all-volunteer Board of Trustees and Advisory Board (comprised solely of Ponce Inlet residents) continues to guide the Association in its ongoing mission to preserve and disseminate the maritime and social history of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station.

Over the years, the Association has completed millions of dollars worth of restoration work and increased the overall value of the site with the construction of several modern structures including the Ayres Davies Lens Exhibit Building, the Gift Shop and Conference Building, the Rest Room/Group Entrance Facility, and the Administration Building. Restored by trained Association employees and/or licensed contractors, the once dilapidated keepers' dwellings and outbuildings are now home to one of the nation's most comprehensive lighthouse museums. All improvements have been funded by the Preservation Association at no direct cost to the Town or its residents. Thanks to

the ongoing efforts of the Preservation Association, the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse continues to perform its 120+ year mission to guide mariners safely along the coast and through the inlet.

Welcoming nearly 150,000 visitors annually, the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station remains a cornerstone of the Halifax area's tourism-driven economy. Voted Daytona's Best Learning Experience by the Daytona Beach Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Preservation Association is highly regarded not only for its exhibits and historic structures, but for its exceptional educational programs as well. Provided free of charge to all Volusia County school groups, this important element of the Association's ongoing mission has been praised by educators throughout the local community and serves as a benchmark for lighthouse organizations nationwide. As of January 1, 2011, all Ponce Inlet residents have been admitted to the Lighthouse and museum free of charge.

Many local readers may be aware of public statements that have accused the Association of exposing staff and visitors to hazardous materials, of maintaining the historic site in a manner not in keeping with the National Park Service's Standards for Historic Restoration, and conducting work without the necessary permits. Learning of these allegations in mid-September, the Town of Ponce Inlet immediately launched an in-depth investigation into the matter to determine the legitimacy of these claims. Working in cooperation with Town officials, the Association maintained an open-door policy throughout the investigation, providing unfettered access to inspectors, independent contractors, and structural engineers. Their findings disproved many of the claims made against the Preservation Association and its staff.

Volusia County's Environmental Public Management and Works Departments inspected the facility and reviewed documents governing the proper handling, testing, containment, and disposal of hazardous materials. The investigators found no evidence to support the allegations and gave the Lighthouse and the Association a clean bill of health with recommendations for the future disposal and storage of paint solvents and contaminated rags.

Conducted by an independent engineering firm, inspections of the Light >> CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

#### LIGHTHOUSES OF THE WORLD

# Tulum Lighthouse

Situated atop a thirty-nine foot bluff overlooking the western Caribbean coastline on the eastern shore of the Yucatan Peninsula, the Mayan city of Tulum is home to one of the world's most unique and picturesque lighthouses.

Located approximately one and a half hours south of Cancun, the ancient city of Tulum is the third most visited archaeological site in Mexico and one of the best preserved coastal Mayan sites in the world. The ruins are the site of a Pre-Columbian Mayan walled city that served as a major center of maritime and overland trade for hundreds of years. One of the last outposts constructed before the collapse of the Mayan Empire, Tulum was built as a fortress overlooking the sea. It was abandoned approximately seventy-five years after the Spanish conquest of Central America in 1521.

Meaning *fence* or *wall* in the Mayan language, the ancient city of Tulum appears to have been an important site for the worship of the Diving or Descending god. The walled city consisted of sixty structures spread out over a large area. The largest of these structures was *el Castillo* (the Castle) a rubble-stone pyramid crowned with a massive stone temple. Within the temple, a small shrine helped guide ships across a treacherous offshore reef and safely to shore.

April 2011 • Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station



Use of the structure as a navigational aid was achieved using two openings in the seaward wall of the shrine at the top of the pyramid. Spaced twenty-five to thirty feet apart, the two windows lined up perfectly with a break in the shallow reef that sheltered the lagoon from the open sea. A fire lit within the shrine provided enough light to illuminate the windows which served as range lights for ships attempting to navigate across the reef. This system was so effective it was still in use when Spanish explorers discovered Tulum in 1518.

Today range lights are built in pairs to allow ships to align themselves with the center of a channel. When the two lights are in line, a ship's crew knows they are sailing for the center of the channel. These modern aids to navigation use a pair of range lights; the Mayans used a pair of windows in the face of their temple for a similar purpose.





Prior to 1902, most of the children living in tiny Ponce Park were members of the Pacetti family. The older Pacetti children would take their boat up Spruce Creek early on Monday mornings to the home of their aunt where they would stay until Friday afternoons. This enabled them to attend the Glencoe School.

When Thomas O'Hagan moved to Ponce Park in 1893 to become the Principal Keeper at the Light Station, his growing family increased the school-age population of the village enough so that an official public school could be opened in about 1900. The school was at the north end of what is now Sailfish Drive but was then called Cedar Street. There were no amenities at the school, and the teacher would get a daily pail of drinking water from a nearby residence.



The school's second teacher, Ianthe Bond Hebel, began her tenure in 1903 when she taught for the regular five-month term and was paid a salary of \$30 per month. She boarded for a time at the home of William Rowlinski who had retired from the Light-House Establishment and had been the very first Principal Keeper at the Mosquito (Ponce) Inlet



Lighthouse. Life at Ponce Park was rough and ready. A bear was killed near the schoolhouse during the school's first year of operation, and lanthe Hebel wrote of the swarms of mosquitoes that would attack her as she walked to work each morning.

A few artifacts from this school still remain and several can be seen on display in the SecondAssistant Keeper's Dwelling at the museum. A souvenir program from the 1902-1903 year of the Ponce Park School was donated to the museum's collection by Julia O'Hagan, whose name appears on the student roster. The ink bottle and ink well pictured above were found at the former site of the old Ponce Park School.





#### Volunteer and Education News

# Florida Lighthouse Assoc. Visit

The Florida Lighthouse Association (FLA) capped off its quarterly meeting with a visit to the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse on the morning of Sunday, January 30th. Attended by eighty-five FLA members, the half-day event included workshops that addressed multiple facets of the Preservation Association's ongoing effort to preserve and disseminate the maritime and social history of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station. The primary focus of these workshops was historic restoration, educational programming, and museum management.

Designed to help other lighthouse preservation groups develop, plan, and implement restoration projects of their own, the workshop presented by curator Ellen Henry proved educational to all in attendance. Discussions during this informative session included much of what the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association has learned over the past forty years including; the National Park Service's standards for historic restoration, effective preservation techniques, historic construction methods, and tools, products, and materials commonly used in Lighthouse restoration projects. It is our hope that the workshop participants enjoyed the session as much as our curator enjoyed presenting it.

Director of Operations Mike Bennett and Programs Manager Bob Callister shared their experience in developing educational programs with the FLA attendees in the Gift Shop conference room. Topics of discussion included Sunshine State Standards, the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), curriculum integration, and many of the Association's educational offerings including the U.S.L.H.E.Traveling Library Box, Keeper in the Classroom, online educational resources, Home School Day, Girl Scout Day, onsite tours, and the soon to be released educational outreach program *The Science of Light*.

Scheduled for unveiling in the summer of 2011, *Science of Light* is an interactive videobased program developed by Lighthouse staff and Dan Spinella of Artworks Florida. Intended for elementary and middle school use, this one of a kind program will lead students on a journey of discovery that will help them understand what light is, how it can be manipulated by different mediums, and the manner in which lighthouse optics have evolved over time. Incorporating handson activities with a professionally developed multi-media presentation, *The Science of Light* represents one of the Lighthouse's most ambitious educational programs to date.

In addition to the workshops discussed above, Florida Lighthouse Association members were given the rare opportunity to examine the tower's third order lens up close and personal. Located in the Lantern Room at the top of the Lighthouse, access to the historic lens is normally restricted to trained Lighthouse employees and volunteers, a fact that made the FLA attendees experience even more memorable.

Additional Florida Lighthouse Association activities included a Canaveral Lens Demonstration and guided tours of the Light Station. Participants were also given the opportunity to talk with the "*Old Lighthouse Keepers*" who regaled them with tales of the keepers and families that called the Ponce Inlet Light Station home those many years ago.

# Upcoming Lighthouse Events

#### FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE DAY

Town residents, Association members, and lighthouse enthusiasts are encouraged to visit the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum on April 16, 2011, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in celebration of Florida Lighthouse Day. Held annually, Florida Lighthouse Day emphasizes the ongoing need to protect, preserve, and celebrate Florida's thirty historic lighthouses. Scheduled activities will include the Old Lighthouse Keeper, the Artifact Table, Educational workshops, Kids Crafts, and a Canaveral Lens Demonstration from 1:00 to 2:00 PM

#### NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

The Ponce Inlet Light Station's first "*Night at the Museum*" event will be offered exclusively to Ponce Inlet residents and Association members on the evening of May 13th, and to the general public on May 14th, 2011. Scheduled from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM, Town residents, Association members, and paying guests are encouraged to visit the Light Station during this unique event. The museum's many offerings will include guided tours of the Light Station, Lantern Room access, educational workshops, and family-oriented activities. Guests will be given the opportunity to stroll through the moonlit grounds, climb the tower, and talk with the Old Lighthouse Keeper as he makes his nightly rounds.

#### **INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY**

The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association will host its first *International Museum Day* on May 18, 2011. Observed by museums around the world, International Museum Day encourages the public to celebrate of the universal theme of "Museums and Memory" by visiting its local museums. As repositories for memories, museums tell the story of the human race and their communities through artifacts, exhibits, and the memories of those who have lived.

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Museum is no exception. Dedicated to the preservation and dissemination of the social and maritime history of this important national landmark, the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association endeavors to tell the story of the American Lighthouse Service, the Light Station, and the Ponce Inlet community through its interpretive exhibits, extensive collection of artifacts, historic structures, and educational programs. Tours and presentations by the Curator, Restoration Technician, Program Manager, and Lighthouse Volunteers are just a few of the activities that will highlight this very special day.

#### LEMONADE LECTURES — "YOU HAVE TO GO OUT, YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME BACK."

Programs Manager Bob Callister and Lighthouse Volunteer John Mann will participate in a Lemonade Lecture at DeBary Hall on May 21, 2011. This popular lecture series is presented free of charge throughout the year on the first and third Saturday of every month. Participants in the May 21st lecture will learn the fascinating history of the United States Life-Saving Service (USLSS) and the men who lived and died by the creed "You have to go out, you don't have to come back."

Founded in 1871, the United States Life-Saving Service maintained rescue stations and houses of refuge along the Nation's extensive coastline where its men routinely launched open boats through the violent surf in an endeavor to aid ships, sailors, and persons in distress. When the Life-Saving Service merged with the United States Revenue Cutter Service to form the US Coast Guard in 1915, more than 270 active stations were in operation. Often referred to as the "sister service" of the United States Lighthouse Service, Mr. Callister and Mr. Mann will regal their Lemonade Lecture audience with stories of the Life-Saving Service and its intrepid heroes.

#### Feature Article, continued

Station's historic and modern structures found the buildings in good repair and that the majority of work completed by the Association met or exceeded existing building codes with only a few exceptions. These discrepancies have since been corrected by licensed contractors.

Electrical inspections were conducted by licensed professionals. Although the majority of electrical systems were found to be properly wired and in good working condition a handful of circuits did require work. These discrepancies have been corrected to meet existing electrical codes.

Although the investigation cleared the Association of most of the claims made against it, some work was found to have required a permit. Erroneously categorized as routine maintenance by the Association, some of the work, which included the leveling of brick walkways, repairs to damaged handrails and steps, and the replacement of rotted sections of wooden fencing, would have required a building permit. New policies have now been developed in cooperation with the Town of Ponce Inlet to ensure that these mistakes are not repeated in the future.

Since its inception, the Preservation Association has remained committed to the continued restoration and maintenance of this historic property.



In 2004, the Preservation Association returned the newly restored 3rd order lens to its original home at the top of the Lighthouse.

Renowned not only for its restoration expertise, the Association is well known for its commitment to furthering the cause of historic preservation. Work conducted by the organization is completed by qualified staff that has undergone extensive training in the field of historic masonry restoration and 19thcentury construction techniques. All restoration work at the Light Station



Attention Members & Ponce Inlet Residents!

Sign Up for Our New E-News Bulletin to Learn About Upcoming Events and Specials at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse!

# <u>ITS EASY TO JOIN!</u>

Email Your Name, Address, and Contact Information to:

Members: Member@ponceinlet.org Residents: Resident@ponceinlet.org

is carried out under the guidance of the Federal Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.

Readers are encouraged to contact the Association at volunteer@ponceinlet.org regarding how they can help support us in our ongoing mission to preserve and disseminate the social and maritime history of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station. Thank you for your continued support.

#### Thank You & Wish List

We would like to thank Jacques and Marion Jacobsen for their ongoing generosity in contributing artifacts and information to the Museum. In the past quarter we have received a Lighthouse Establishment oil can marked with the cartouche of the Third District lamp shop, Army and Coast Guard insignia, a Lighthouse Establishment pin, a Lighthouse Service hatband with insignia, and an Army shako insignia. The Jacobsens also provided us with a 48-star American flag and a 45-star flag (1896-1908) marked with the United States Light House Establishment stamp.

From Patrice Morgan we received an early 20th century rocker which is now on view in the living room of the First Assistant Keeper Dwelling

Earl and Gladys Davis have donated an oil lamp with decorative shade, three vintage oil lamp chimneys, a vintage Dazey butter churn which can be seen in the kitchen of our First



Assistant Keeper Dwelling, and a granite ware coffee pot, also on view in the same kitchen.

Thank you, everyone!



If you would like to donate items or contribute to the acquisition of artifacts, we are currently searching for turn-of-the-20th-century parlor furniture and rugs, late 19th century clothing and personal items, and a working player piano.

# 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:

General \$2 • The benefits listed above for one individual	20
<ul> <li>Senior. \$1</li> <li>All privileges of General Membership for one individual 62 years or older</li> </ul>	10
<ul> <li>Student\$1</li> <li>All privileges of General Membership for one individual 12 years or older with a valid student identification</li> </ul>	10
Family       \$4         • All privileges of General Membership for the immediate family	

Immediate family is limited to one or two adults and your children under age 18. Grandchildren are not eligible.

- You will be issued one membership card for each parent, and each card will list the names of your children.
- Child under 12 must be accompanied by an adult

#### Please complete the entire form to enroll, or join online at www.poncelighthousestore.org.

## Select type of membership:

General \$20
□ Senior \$10
Student (submit copy of ID) \$10
G Family \$40
Gift Membership From:
D 2 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14
Image: 2nd Assistant Keeper
Ist Assistant Keeper         \$200
Principal Keeper         \$500
Corporate Lampist \$500
Name:
Address 1:
Address 2:
City: State: ZIP:
Phone: () -

Ends

E-mail:

#### Office use only

Begins\_

#### 2nd Assistant Keeper ..... \$100 • All privileges of General or Family Membership Recognition of your membership in the quarterly newsletters' 2nd Assistant Keeper List 1st Assistant Keeper ..... \$200 All privileges of 2nd Assistant Membership Two gift General Memberships • Recognition of your support in the quarterly newsletters' 1st Assistant Keeper List Principal Keeper..... \$500 All privileges of 1st Assistant Membership • A personalized guided tour of the Light Station • Recognition of your support in the quarterly newsletters' Principal Keeper List

#### Corporate Lampist ..... \$500

- 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 your companies support in the quarterly
- newsletters' Corporate Lampist List

#### FLORIDA DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION NUMBER AND DISCLAIMER:

#### Registration #: CH137

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

For family memberships,	list spouse/partne	r and all immedia	te children
under eighteen years of a	ige:		

Spouse/Partner:

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 3-Digit Security Code:\_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date:

CC#:

Signature:

#### Or, make check payable to:

Ponce Inlet Lighthouse 4931 S. Peninsula Dr., Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

Thank You for Your Generous Support!

# TALES OF PONCE INLET

Tales of Ponce Inlet DISCOVER THE UNIQUE AND INTERESTING HISTORY OF PONCE INLET FROM THE DAYS OF THE SPANISH EXPLORERS THROUGH THE ROARING Twenties, and beyond. Written by LONG TIME RESIDENT AYRES DAVIES, FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION Association and Ponce Inlet's first MAYOR. ITEM #: 2801

PRICE: \$12.00



#### Lighthouse PUZZLE

PERFECT FOR RAINY DAYS AND QUIET EVENINGS, THIS 500 PIECE JIGSAW PUZZLE FEATURES AN AERIAL VIEW OF THE HISTORIC Ponce de Leon Inlet LIGHT STATION. PUZZLE MEASURES 14 1/4 " X 20 1/4" INCHES WHEN COMPLETED. Ітем #: 4447 PRICE: \$10.99

#### PONCE INLET LICENSE PLATES SHOW YOUR PRIDE FOR THE

**Replica Ponce Inlet Lighthouse** 

PROCLAIM YOUR LOVE FOR THE HISTORIC PONCE

DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE WITH THIS CUSTOM

ILLUMINATED METAL LIGHTHOUSE MADE EXCLUSIVELY

FOR THE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION. STANDING 15"

ADDITION TO ANY LIGHTHOUSE ENTHUSIAST'S

WITH THIS CUSTOM SET OF BAMBOO WIND CHIMES. FEATURING

FLORIDA'S TALLEST LIGHTHOUSE, THESE ONE OF A KIND WIND

CHIMES WERE DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PONCE INLET LIGHT HOUSE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION AND MEASURE 23

PONCE INLE

FLORIDA

COLLECTION. **ITEM #: 0148** 

PRICE: \$39.99

TALL AND ILLUMINATED WITH A STANDARD CHANDELIER LIGHT BULB, THIS UNIQUE PIECE WILL BE A WELCOME

BAMBOO WIND CHIMES Relax to the soothing sounds of nature

LONG.

Ітем #: 2954

PRICE: 12.99

PONCE INLET COMMUNITY WITH A CUSTOM LICENSE PLATE FOR YOUR CAR, TRUCK, OR SUV. Available in both oval and rectangular shapes. Car STICKERS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE OR IN THE GIFT SHOP. ITEM #: 1758 (OVAL), 0320 (RECTANGULAR) PRICE: \$6.99 (OVAL), \$3.99 (RECTANGULAR)



PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE MODEL This 7" tall resin replica of Ponce Inlet LIGHTHOUSE FEATURES AN ILLUMINATED LANTERN ROOM THAT CAN BE TURNED ON AND OFF WITH FLIP OF THE SWITCH. ITEM #: 0265 PRICE: \$15.99 Ponce De Leon Inlet

PonceLighthouseStore.org, and place orders by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 21.

Please contact the Gift Shop at (386) 761-1821 or via email at cmaroney@ponceinlet.org for more information. Usual UPS shipping charges and a \$4.00 handling fee apply to all orders.



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# PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

4931 SOUTH PENINSULA DRIVE PONCE INLET, FLORIDA 32127 WWW.PONCEINLET.ORG 761-1821 (386)



YARD FLAG SHOW YOU LOVE FOR THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE WITH THIS CUSTOM-MADE 18" X 12" MINI YARD FLAG DEPICTING THE LIGHTHOUSE ON A BLUE BACKGROUND. Ітем #: 0668 PRICE: \$11.99

PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE TRIVET SUITABLE FOR USE AS A DECORATIVE TRIVET OR WALL HANGING, THIS UNIQUE HAND-PAINTED CERAMIC TILE FEATURES A BEAUTIFUL IMAGE OF THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE. TILE INCLUDES CORK BACKING TO PREVENT SLIPPING AND A WIRE HANGER FOR WALL DISPLAY. AVAILABLE IN TWO SIZES: 8" X 8" AND II" X 14". ITEM #: 0014 (8" x 8") PRICE: \$17.99 ITEM #: 0843 (II "X 14") PRICE: \$30.99



MEMBERSHIP COUPON 20% OFF ANY SINGLE ITEM

Limit one coupon per member. Coupon may not be used in conjunction with any other discount. Proof of membership must be shown at time of purchase. Not valid for purchase of Memorial Bricks. Good from April 1, 2011, through June 30, 2011.

# STAINED GLASS

LIGHTHOUSE PANEL CELEBRATE OUR RICH LIGHTHOUSE HERITAGE WITH THIS COLORFUL STAINED GLASS PANEL FEATURING 7 OF FLORIDA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL LIGHTHOUSES INCLUDING THE PONCE INLET LIGHT STATION. BEVEL CUT COMPASS ROSE ADORNS THE CENTER OF THIS MAGNIFICENT STAINED GLASS PANEL MEASURING 9" WIDE X 40" TALL. Item #: 0481 PRICE: 137.99



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 Harbour Lights and other miniatures. Customers may also shop online at www.