



# EAST END

# LIGHTHOUSES

CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION

Fall 2005

*News*

PO BOX 21 · GREENPORT, NY 11944 · 631-477-4121 · WWW.EASTENDLIGHTHOUSES.ORG · EASTLITE@OPTONLINE.NET

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### ANNUAL MEETING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. With the support of the Corps of Engineers, Plum Island and Homeland Security completed the Plum Island Lighthouse rock revetment, costing \$1.7 million.
2. Organized and hosted nine lighthouse trips and cruises.
3. Further promoted East End Lighthouses as a nationally recognized authority on the lighthouses of Eastern Long Island.
4. Maintained and improved, thanks to Regina Kahney, our increasingly popular web site. Since May, received, over 40,000 requests for pages.
5. Increased memberships to over 100.
6. Resolved the suit by the Maritime Museum against East End Lighthouses. Both organizations are to work together to maintain Long Beach Bar "Bug" Light as an aid to navigation. East End Lighthouses completed major repairs that included, replacing all of the windows, replace all of the railings and the roof ventilators. The re-coating of the roof is planned for this month.
7. Initiated a Quarterly newsletter, thanks to Monica Kneuer.
8. Organized and sponsored, with help of the Greenport school teachers, the third annual 4th grade lighthouse contest.

## *Through The Eyes Of A Friend*

By Monica Kneuer

I woke up this morning and my knees and feet hurt. Why you say? I was one of 90 folks who spent five hours "standing" on the deck of the PECONIC STAR II lastnight, inching for the best spot. Were we fishing? No! We were "lighthouse peeping". This was my sixth or seventh such trip and the camera and picture files provide proof of this. I have more pictures than Carter has... Well you know how it goes. Will I do this again? You bet I will.

It all started around 3:30 yesterday afternoon. We all clustered on the dock waiting for the return of the PECONIC STAR II from its early morning fishing trip. The passengers and their gear all left and the crew started the task of washing down the boat, inside and out. Everyone was anxious to board and get out, away from the dock and "up close" to the lighthouses of Southold Town. The only way to get closer to these beautiful structures is to be a seagull or cormorant. I sort of thought this is crazy, you've done this enough. But I'm addicted. As we came close to "BUG LIGHT", I went through the cabin to the other side for a better view and ran into a friend, Marletta, and her friend, Maureen. They had been on the all-day-cruise with me a few years before and were both as excited as I was. Marletta had pictures with her of the trip several weeks ago to BUG LIGHT. She renewed my thinking – no, I'm not crazy. Here is a boat load of people with smiles on their face, all staring out at these buildings that have stood there since the 1800's doing their job, guiding weary travelers and fishermen back to port.

Why indeed do people return to see the same thing over and over. The sky, clouds, sun, birds, the play of light, boats surrounding them – it's always different. Last night, we were able to get right up close to BUG LIGHT, ORIENT POINT, PLUM ISLAND, LITTLE GULL AND RACE ROCK. As we rounded RACE ROCK it changed dramatically, At first it was dull because the sun was temporarily behind a cloud. As we inched around with a close-up, listening to the history, as narrated by Merle Wiggin, the sun popped out of the cloud. As we rounded the light, we were treated to a beautiful shot of its silhouette against the bright sun. We called out to the small boats to show us their catch. The sea makes friends easily. As we came back to the other side, the sun playing on the lighthouse provided us with a totally different "picture." As we came up close to LITTLE GULL, the crowd was treated to a good view of why the Island got its name. Hundreds of Sea Gulls greeted us and followed us hoping for some of the leftover meal that we all enjoyed.

I think I can speak for everyone. The wait caused by Hurricane Ophelia on Saturday, was well worth it. Sunday's weather provided a beautiful sunset and the almost full moon rising behind Gardner's Island was a perfect ending to a perfect day. Merle's narrations of the history were great, the food and wines were a hit; in all it was great. People were friendly and all seemed to have as good a time as I did.

## DECEMBER 8, 2005

The Second Annual Lighthouse Recognition Day at the Auditorium At Peconic Landing from 6-8 pm. For reservations call 631-477-4121.

## EAST END LIGHTHOUSES

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### OFFICERS

*Merlon E. Wiggin*  
PRESIDENT

*Mark Gebhardt*  
VICE PRESIDENT

*Jean Cochran*  
TREASURER

*Seth Allen*  
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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Dave Allen*

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*Graig Richter*

*Rich Saetta*

*John Diomede*

*George Costello*

*Peter Young*

*Monica Kneuer*  
EDITOR

## Peter A. Young

**Past Responsibilities:** Peter Young was Senior Vice President and Managing Director of the Grubb & Ellis Company, a commercial real estate services company. He was officed in Stamford, Connecticut and was responsible for business development, profit/loss, and assuring corporate support and allocation of resources to the transactional professional advisors in the field. He was also charged with training, recruitment, administration and oversight issues related to the delivery of Grubb & Ellis services to its clients. Revenue almost doubled within 2 years of initial tenure.

**Career Summary:** A native New Yorker, Peter left military service and graduate school to develop extensive experience and accomplishment in both corporate real estate and commercial real estate brokerage services. Corporate affiliations include the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., CB Richard Ellis Co., Grossman's, E.J. DeBartolo, W.R. Grace, Melville Realty and the Grand Union Co. with primary focus on leasing, investment sales and development of commercial properties.

**Military Service:** U.S. Air Force/U.S. Army Officer (Active Duty- 1962-1968). Flying duties (Air Force) and command positions (Army) in U.S and Southeast Asia (Vietnam, Thailand). Retired Lieutenant Colonel in U.S. Army Reserve.

**Education:** Peter is a graduate of the University of California (Berkeley) with Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Fordham University (New York) with Bachelor of Science (Political Science) degrees. He also has received a Certificate of Real Estate Studies from New York University.

**Affiliations:** Peter was a member and past President of the Fairfield/Westchester County Chapter of the International Association of Corporate Real Estate Executives (NACORE); a member of the Real Estate Board of New York, the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) and Chapter Board Member of National Association of Industrial & Office Properties. (NAIOP)

Peter served as the Putnam County representative to the NY State Hudson River Valley Greenway Council and the Executive Committee of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor (Palisades Park Commission). Peter formerly served as Chairman of the Planning Board of the Town of Philipstown, New York (Putnam County). He also served on the Philipstown Wetlands Advisory Committee and the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District and is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Angel Island State Park Association (Tiburon, California). He was a major party candidate in 2000 for the office of Putnam County legislator.

He is currently a reader, pleasure boater, skier, hiker, golfer, gardener, model railroader, Advanced Pilot in the U.S. Power Squadron (Peconic Bay Squadron), and a member of the New York Guard (NY State Militia), Air Division. He is among the first class to graduate from the Suffolk County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). He has also completed ICS (Incident Command System) courses 100 -300 – (NIM Requirement)

## SECOND ANNUAL LIGHTHOUSE RECOGNITION DAY

Our second annual recognition day will be held on Thursday, December 8th this year. Last year's celebration took place in the Community Center at Peconic Landing in Greenport. A plaque was presented to Stan Mickus of Cross sound Ferry who donates the use of his ferry "North Star" every year for the June all-day cruise to our Southold Lighthouses. A certificate of Appreciation was accepted by De. Elizabeth Lautner, Director of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center. Other certificates were presented to: Barbara Clapp, Greenport schools for fostering student awareness through teaching the history of the local lighthouses and contests; Northfork Promotional Council for their listing of all East End Lighthouse events; Harlan Hamilton for his work with Merlon Wiggin in authoring a book on the LIGHTHOUSES OF SOUTHDOLD TOWN; Don and Linda Loubov for their fund raising activities by the sale of lighthouse memorabilia; Capt. David Brennan of the "Peconic Star" for his great lighthouse cruises; Tom McVann for his legal services; Mike and Rita Hagerman for their publishing services; Palmer Wineries for their wine donations for the lighthouse cruises; Michael Wiggin for his assistance and maintenance of the East End Lighthouse web site; Peconic Landing for providing space for our monthly Directors meetings and other functions; and the Suffolk Times for their covering of our functions and lighthouse activities.

## ANNUAL MEETING HELD

Dinner and a business meeting were held on Saturday, October 15th at Peconic Landing in Greenport. Merlon opened the meeting with an update on the accomplishments of 2005, most important of these being the completion of the work on the rock revetment at Plum Island. This will secure the cliff in Plum Gut from erosion and storm damage. The work was completed by the Army Corps of Engineers at a cost of \$1.7 million funded by Homeland Security and the stone donated to East End Lighthouse.

There were 9 successful lighthouse trips and cruises. The summer weather cooperated on most. There was only need to reschedule our final evening historical cruise. The East End Lighthouse web site has been maintained and improved thanks to Regina Kahney, and since May has received 39,300 requests for pages. Our membership has grown to over 100, the Greenport fourth graders continue to participate in their school run lighthouse contest (we hope to include the other Southold schools next year) and we have sent out our first two quarterly newsletters, this being our third.

Also, very important is the two day work trip to the Bug Light to make repairs which included replacing all the windows and railings. The place looks great and was ready for one of the cruises which brought a boatful of members and supporters out for a first hand look.

Merle stressed the need for promoting awareness of the importance of our off shore lighthouses and discussed plans to qualify East End Lighthouse towards the taking over of ORIENT POINT, LITTLE GULL and RACE ROCK. These three local Southold structures are becoming available through the Coast Guard and we hope to make them part of our plans to aid navigation in the waters off our east end. Our treasurers report shows us in good shape with over \$50,000 in two bank accounts to help us continue with our efforts.

Elections were held for four members of the board of directors. Steve Clarke, Craig Richter and Richard Saette were re-elected and we welcome a new member in Peter Young (see profile) who has shown great support to our organization in the past year.

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at Peconic Landing in Greenport from 5:30 to 7:00 PM and we would love to have you join us with your support, ideas and suggestion of how to keep our East End Lighthouse organization a vital and effective organization in the years to come. Peconic Landing is on Route 25 just east of Greenport proper. It is just beyond the Shady Lady Restaurant and Inn. The entrance is on the left. Follow the road up past the pond. At the second road on the left, proceed to the Main building. The receptionist will direct you to our meeting room. Hope to see some of you there.

## PLANNED EVENTS FOR 2006

<b>May 20</b>	Visit and Picnic Montauk Lighthouse
<b>June 3</b>	Offshore Lighthouse Cruise
<b>June 17</b>	Boston Light Trip – Based on Interest
<b>July 15</b>	Lighthouse and History Cruise
<b>July 29</b>	200th Anniversary Little Gull Lighthouse
<b>August 5</b>	Historic Gunpowder Sailboat Race
<b>August 12</b>	Member Visit to Plum Island Light
<b>August 26</b>	Lighthouse and History Cruise
<b>September 2</b>	Trip to Long Beach Bar “Bug” Lighthouse
<b>September 16</b>	Lighthouse and History Cruise
<b>October 7</b>	Valcour Island Lighthouse and History Trip
<b>October 21</b>	Annual Meeting
<b>December 6</b>	Annual Lighthouse Appreciation Day



*15th Anniversary Visit Bug Light*



## Fall & Winter Activities

The weather does not provide many opportunities for cruises, so it is quiet for our organization but it is a busy time planning for next years activities. If you would like to volunteer your time, ideas and/or expertise it will be gratefully welcomed. Help is also needed because Isabelle, who has done so much for us is incapacitated. She is currently residing at the San Simeon by the Sea Rehabilitation Center in Greenport. She would welcome anyone paying her a visit.



*Replacing Windows Bug Light*



*Block Island Lighthouse Visit*

Harbour Lights has announced that their model of Long Beach Bar depicting the crane lifting the second story into place is being retired. This limited edition, 6500 were made, will never be available again once they've sold out. They can be ordered on line by visiting the web site: [www.lighthousedepot.com](http://www.lighthousedepot.com) or by calling 1-800-758-1444.

EAST END LIGHTHOUSES, INC. AND THE AMERICAN LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION

# MEMBERSHIP FORM

• DUES: \$25.00 PER YEAR •

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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*Benefits include Member Discounts, Newsletter and Information on Lighthouse Events of Interest  
A Local 501 (c)(3) Not For Profit Organization*

Please make check payable to East End Lighthouses, Inc.

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