

Fourth Year of Publication

Late Fall 2001

COAST GUARD MEETING 11/ 29

WINTER LIGHTHOUSE VISIT

An excellent meeting with the Coast Guard Group personnel was held at the Fort Lauderdale Coast Guard station. It was chaired by Captain Mark Kerski. Chief Joe Cocking, an expert on fresnel lenses also attended. Chief Cocking has been working with us on the Hillsboro Lighthouse renovations since 1997, and spoke at the summer Florida Lighthouse Association meetings that year. The meeting was hosted by Lt. Nicole Nancarrow of the Ft. Lauderdale station who arranged a hearty Coast Guard lunch on base.

Captain Kerski recognizes there have been communication problems and suggests regular future meetings. During this meeting THREE H.L.P.S. visits to the lighthouse were scheduled for 2002...

February 16, 2002

May 18, 2002

October 5, 2002

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A winter Lighthouse visit is planned for January 12, 2002. A major access problem exists since the Coast Guard declared the dock "unserviceable" last March, and this fall the Hillsboro Club Board decided not to allow bus access during the winter season (November 1 through end of April) A meetings with the Coast Guard January 9 will try to resolve the problems. Coast Guard dock problems include:

- 1...The dock does not meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements (ADA)
- 2...The Coast Guard has liability concerns

Since resolution of the problems requires several USCG Departments (Group, Legal, Civil Engineering) a back-up date of February 16 has been established for the H.L.P.S. winter visit. Please see other articles in the newsletter for more details.

PLANNED WINTER VISIT

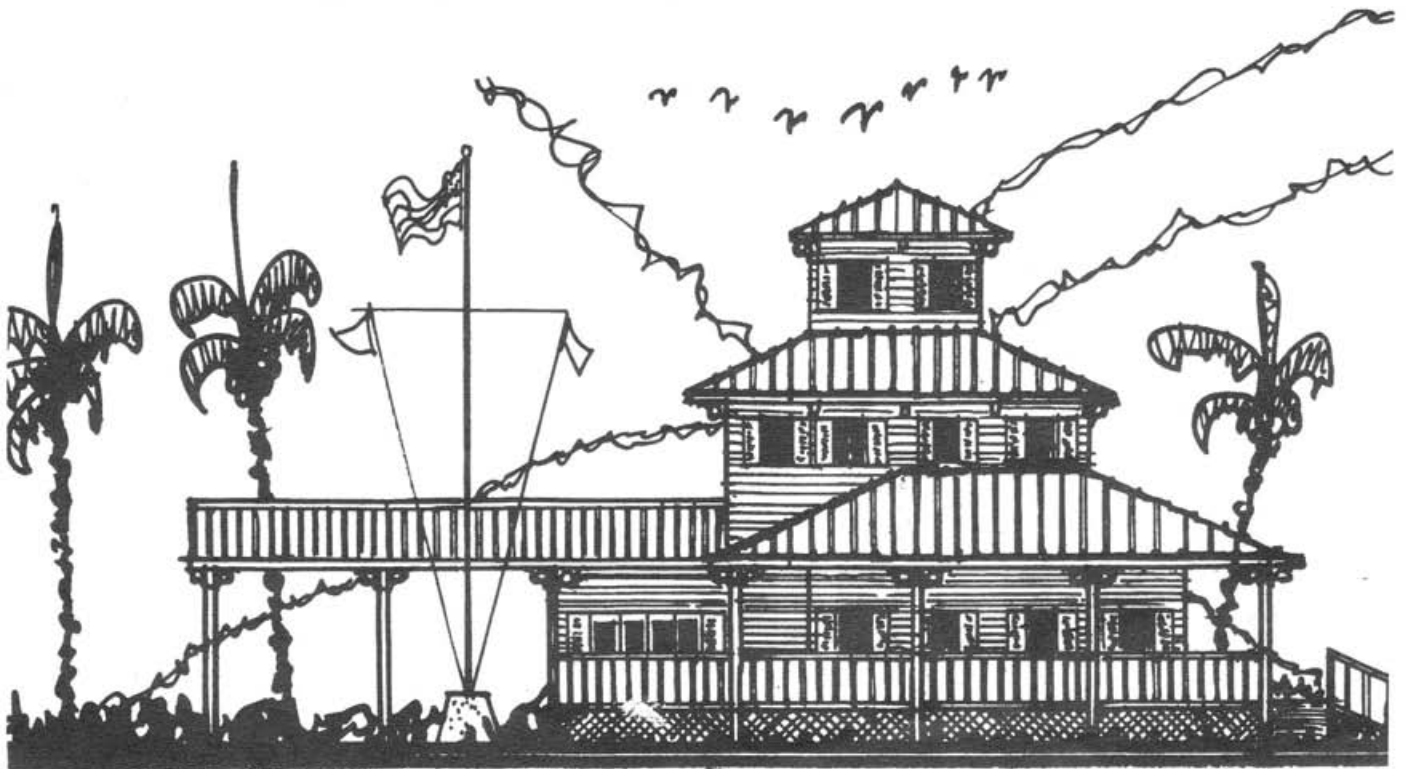
- * Park at the City Parking lot near Sands Hotel
- * Validate MEMBERSHIP in HLPS at Sands Hotel
- * Travel to the Lighthouse by boat up the Intracoastal
- * Land at Coast Guard Dock supervised by Coast Guard Auxiliary and visit the lighthouse grounds and tower.

LIGHTHOUSE DISPLAY AT HILLSBORO INLET

For many years members of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society have dreamed about having a facility that could be used to display the historical artifacts that have been collected. The building could replicate a lighthouse keepers cottage and function as a mini museum and possibly also house some office space for a mini police station, the marine patrol, and serve as a Pompano Beach welcome center.

The artists concept sketch shown here depicts a style recalling Key West or Seaside Florida that maybe appropriate. Some features such as wide covered verandas to provide shade and an elevated platform to experience a panoramic view of one of the most beautiful inlets and lighthouses in the world. This is a treasure that all residents should be able to enjoy. A perfect location for this project would be the park at the Southeast side of the bridge

The City Of Pompano Beach is now planning a small building with rest rooms in the City Park east of the Hillsboro Bridge. This is a prime location with a beautiful view of Hillsboro Inlet and the Lighthouse. Our very competent City Engineer, Helen Gray, manages the project. If you feel that at least a historical picture display area is an important addition to the rest room building please call her at 786- 4738



FALL 2001

Dave Bu

COAST GUARD MEETING (CON'T)

We pointed out that the recent decision by the Hillsboro Club not to allow buses on Club property during the season (Dec 1 to May 1) made use of the Coast Guard Dock critical for HLPS.

Captain Kerski mentioned the major Coast Guard concerns are liability and the condition of the dock, particularly since it does not meet the legal ADA law requirements. Hib Casselberry pointed out this was solved at the July 2001 meeting, and assured Captain Kerski that Dan Dodge has approved ADA access by handicapped vans if needed during a HLPS tour. The dock is not needed for ADA access for future events.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

We delivered two copies of the HLPS Insurance Application, and stated that the \$ 816.06 premium payment has been made. We also pointed out the USCG is named as "also insured" on the policy which covers up to six HLPS events per year.

PROFITABILITY..The USCG has real problems if these Lighthouse visits are profit-generating ventures. We assured the Coast Guard the only cost to participate in a Lighthouse tour is membership in HLPS. We informed the Coast Guard that the refreshments on-site are donated by the Hillsboro Club at no charge.

TYPICAL VISIT TO HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE

Charles Seitz made an excellent presentation, describing a typical tour starting with a gathering at the Sands Hotel with parking and membership verification. Then members transfer to a 40-passenger boat for a trip up the Intracoastal to the Lighthouse Dock. A guide, usually Harry Cushing, goes over procedures at the Lighthouse as well as a historical narrative. Charles mentioned what has been accomplished in positive publicity for HLPS and the Coast Guard over the past 3 ½ years.

COAST GUARD DOCK

HLPS presented a sketch for a simple wooden safety railing for the dock. It would be easy to erect, and could also be easily removed if the USCG decides to put up a welded aluminum railing in the future. Chief Cocking commented the design would have to be approved by the Ocean Engineer Lt. Brad Ripkey at Civil Engineering offices down in South Miami.

Chief Cocking suggested getting funding for the railings through the Coast Guard Foundation. HLPS cannot make the contribution of railing cost directly to Group Miami. We can fund through the Foundation.

Captain Kerski requested that priority be given by his staff to meet the planned January 12 HLPS Lighthouse visit date. Since many steps are involved a back-up date of **February 16** was established. Progress will be reviewed at a Coast Guard-Lighthouse Society meeting January 9, 2002 at the Sands Hotel.

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Have you renewed your membership for 2001 ? Membership expiration month & year is shown on your label.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

KEEPER'S CORNER

The Lighthouse keeper's Office has been renovated, and about 2/3 of the wall space has been allocated for hanging historical photographs and drawings of Hillsboro Lighthouse. This "mini-museum" should be finished and available for viewing during the H.L.P.S. tours in 2002.

White CHRISTMAS LIGHTS been installed on the Observation deck railing of the tower and shine brightly every evening. When the rotating 1,000 watt beam is added, the appearance is very festive.

Art Makenian

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Since early 1997, we collectively, have achieved a lot for the good of Hillsboro Lighthouse. Our biggest achievement was saving the Fresnel lens and having it repaired. We have arranged to have several tours each year. We have had some stormy weather along the way, but we worked thing out by pulling together collectively with the Coast Guard, our lighthouse keeper, Art Makenian, and his auxiliary men & women.

For year 2002, we have tentative dates for 3 tours of the lighthouse, a HARD push to make the CG Dock useful for our boat tours, and the continuation of the schools essay contest. We need more HLPS members to do volunteer work. What are you willing to do?