

BIG DIAMOND

HILLSBORO
LIGHTHOUSE
PRESERVATION
SOCIETY

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DID YOU KNOW, DURING WORLD WAR II THERE WAS A MOUNTED BEACH PATROL?

By Art Makenian, HLPS President

During World War II, there was a great concern about enemy vessels nearing U.S. shores to allow spies to come ashore without being noticed. The Beach Patrol gained great importance not only for beach intrusion, but also to

observe the U-Boats surfacing during their patrols close to shores on the busy sea lanes of Florida east coast, and also to prevent communications between persons on shore and ships at sea. America lost

over a hundred military and merchant ships along the Atlantic and the Gulf coastal waters. The peak of these activities were between 1942 and 1943.

The location of the Beach

(Continued on page 4)

THE LANTERN ROOM OF THE HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE IS RESTORED TO ITS ORIGINAL CONDITION.

By Art Makenian, HLPS President

Our magnificent and unique 9 foot By-valve Fresnel lens with precision 356 triangular prisms, which produces 5.5 million candela light beam, had been housed in a poorly conditioned lantern room. About one third of the curved diamond shape glass panes were damaged allowing moisture intrusion

endangering the classic lens. Other glass panes were dated back to the 1920s, when the lighthouse was struck by hurricane force winds and hail. These panes were replaced by undersize wire glass, a non-authentic material. Many more were undersize polycarbonate panes installed during the

1998 major rehabilitation which I personally witnessed. (It was during that same period when I thought that may be one day I would be able to replace the plastic with proper glass panes.

The new lantern room glass retrofit project was financed in part with

(Continued on page 6)

GLAZING TEAM



See Page 6

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Please accept my apologies for the delay of this publication - although not an excuse - my explanation is simple. You cannot publish a newsletter without an Editor and a Publisher. Earlier this year our great Editor Steve Hoczak and our Media Coordinator Jennifer Burns stepped aside from their posts to pursue new endeavors.

I do not need to describe to our readers of the *Big Diamond* publication what Steve brought to our organization and to our readers. Most of you kept reminding me of the interesting stories, editorials and great pictures that have been appearing since Steve published the first issue in this new **format** in July 2010. That was five years ago this month. The commercial quality publication was good enough for us to sell advertising space to local merchants, but that effort required more dedicated sales volunteers which we did not have in our volunteer base.

HLPS has been lucky to have Dave Noderer, a loyal senior volunteer who stepped in to offer his services as a new Editor and Publisher. Of course the offer was accepted **and with Steve's help, Dave started this edition of the *Big Diamond* with a big bang** this month.

Thank you **Steve Hoczak, Jennifer Burns, Dave Noderer and Debbie Divich**, who is our new Media Manager.

During the months of June 2014 through June 2015, HLPS volunteers once again demonstrated their skills by replacing 21 glass diamond shaped panes at the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse lantern room. Each one of these glass panes weighed over 30 lbs. The elevation of the lantern room is 120 to 130 feet high. Operating under strict OSHA rules, body harnesses were used as a safety measure. The project was partially financed by the State of Florida Division of Historical Resources Preservation Matching Grant of \$50,000. The project description and the specifications were written by HLPS and presented to the U.S. Coast Guard CEU (Civil Engineering Unit) Miami for approval. In turn, approval from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was obtained. Per the State of Florida accounting system, the total project cost was \$87,754.86. HLPS managed to save the State of Florida by returning \$14,332.69 of the \$50,000.00 grant. The entire lantern room glazing is now a mix of new and original glass.

As the Glazing Project Coordinator and General Manager, my very special thanks goes to our volunteers, **Bill Slager, Dave Noderer, Steve Smith, Ken Herman and Jerry Edelman**. These men demonstrated their dedication to passion for the lighthouse.

Art Makenian

The mission of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society is to promote the history of the Hillsboro Inlet Light Station and the Hillsboro Inlet area through preservation of structures and artifacts, education and public access tours.

HLPS OFFICERS

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2015 HILLSBORO LIGHT STATION TOUR SCHEDULE

An expanded schedule of Hillsboro Lighthouse Tours is on tap for 2015, including three first-ever Sunday tour dates.

Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, now in charge of maintenance of the 107-year old light, has signed an agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard to offer lighthouse lovers of all ages access to the Hillsboro Lighthouse beginning with the first tour on Sunday, January 11, 2015.

Future dates are scheduled for the light station in support of Barefoot Mailman Remembrance Day (October).

Issuing a statement to confirm the dates, HLPS President Art Makenian said: "We're very proud to expand our tour schedule to showcase the Hillsboro Lighthouse twelve times in 2015, and are excited to offer **Sunday tours for the first time in HLPS's** 17-year history. Since the USCG ceded maintenance to us, our member-volunteers have worked tirelessly to improve the condition of the lighthouse that we all love."

Date	Tour Boat Dock	Sailing Times							
Saturday August 8 *	Sands Harbor Resort	8:30 am	9:30 am	10:30 am	11:30 am	12:30 pm	1:30 pm	2:30 pm	3:30 pm
Saturday September 12	Sands Harbor Resort	8:30 am	9:30 am	10:30 am	11:30 am				
Saturday October 10 **	Sands Harbor Resort	8:30 am	9:30 am	10:30 am	11:30 am	12:30 pm	1:30 pm	2:30 pm	3:30 pm
Sunday November 8	Alsdorf Park	8:30 am	9:30 am	10:30 am	11:30 am				
Saturday December 5	Sands Harbor Resort	8:30 am	9:30 am	10:30 am	11:30 am				

* August 8 is National Lighthouse Preservation Day.

** October 10 is Barefoot Mailman Remembrance Day

October 10th—North Broward Radio Club Special Event Radio Day

Visitor Spotlight!

On the July 11th, 2015 tour we welcomed James & Justin Petrilli of



Montreal, Canada. They are first time visitors but see the lighthouse whenever they visit **James' mom in Pompano Beach.**



www.facebook.com/hillsborolighthouse

MOUNTED BEACH PATROL

(Continued from page 1)

Patrol Headquarters was the site of the old Silver Thatch Inn in Pompano Beach which was built by the Jelks family, circa 1930s, located less than a mile south of the Hillsboro Lighthouse. When the Coast Guard requisitioned the property in 1942, stables, corals and a paddock were built behind the hotel, which served as the headquarters for the unit and barracks for the men. Starting an eight-hour duty at 4:00 P.M., the unit patrolled from Hillsboro inlet to Port Everglades. In 1945, the unit was decommissioned and the hotel was returned to civilian control. It was during that same period when the U.S. Navy took control of the U.S. Coast Guard Hillsboro Inlet Light Station and built a major naval communications center. The Lighthouse was used by the Coast Guard for observation purpose only, the classic lens light was extinguished.

There are several local stories about a German U-Boat running aground



Inlet shores 1942

on Hillsboro Shore reefs, and the crew was captured by the Navy and the Coast Guard residing at the lighthouse. Also another story was that the German U-Boat Crew was captured while attempting to kidnap Sir Anthony Eden then The British Foreign Secretary visiting Hillsboro Beach. Eventually, by early 1944, all German war vessels were sunk and destroyed by the U.S. Army Air Force and the U.S. Navy. Only few managed to sail back to European shores.

The mounted patrols worked exceedingly well on the beaches in Florida and New York, discovering two Nazi saboteur teams put ashore by German U-boats in New York.

MOUNTED BEACH PATROL

By 1944, the threat of enemy landings on U.S. shorelines began to wane and the mounted beach patrol started to wrap up its two-year run. The horses were sold at public auctions in various coastal areas.

The work of beach patrol either on foot, in vehicles or horseback – could be hard but they were a strong group of men, highly motivated to do their part for the war effort.



Beach Patrol 1942



Beach Patrol 1943

The Coast Guard never used mounted patrols again, but this unusual part of the service's history illustrates its unending flexibility and adaptability, and is a shining example of how the Coast Guard continuously lives up to its motto.

SEMPER PARATUS.

THE LANTERN ROOM

(Continued from page 1)

Historical Preservation Grant Assistance provided by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, a Division of Historical Resources Florida Department of State, assisted by the Florida Historical Commission. The other part was financed by your Preservation Society funds generated by our membership dues and donations, and mostly the labor of six great volunteers of The Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society. Now that the resources are in place, your preservation society was set to go to work.

During the midyear of 2013, our volunteer grant writer Debbie Divich requested a small grant from the Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation for 2014 fiscal year. That request was denied due to lack of funds. However, Debbie was advised by the same Bureau to re-apply for 2015 fiscal year in case funds would become available.

That was done, and HLPs was granted \$50,000 which is the limit of small grants for the 2015 fiscal year, and the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse Lantern Room Glazing project became a reality.

The actual lantern Room Glazing project started in September 2014 when all the research, engineering and planning work took place. The Lighthouse being a Coast Guard property, and also being a National Historic Preservation property, HLPs had to comply with many approvals before even considering to start the work. In three short months, all was accomplished, and 22 curved glass panes 32X32 inch, 5/16 inches

(Continued on page 7)



Glazing project in progress

THE LANTERN ROOM

thick curved diamond shape glass panes were ordered from a local vendor specialized in curving glass sheets.

Before removal and installation of the glass, many procedural rules were required. The Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit in Miami assisted by, performing tests for mercury and lead content in the area where the volunteers would be exposed on daily basis. Materials and Work Specifications submitted to the Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit by HLPS were also promptly approved.

The first glass pane was removed and replaced on the 20th of January 2015. While planning for this project HLPS advised the Coast Guard Aids to Navigation office that the nightly light operation would not be interrupted during the entire project. The glass panes had to be removed after dawn and installed before dusk. The classic lens had to be protected during the entire working hours in the lantern room. HLPS



Grit blasting bronze components

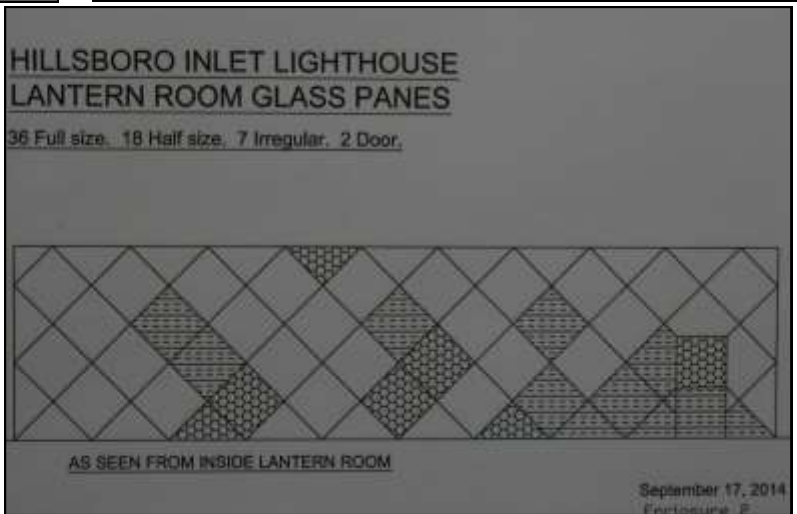


First glass pane 5-16 thick, 32.5X32.5 , 30lbs

volunteers did just that. The last glass pane was installed on the 29th of April 2015, a full month ahead of schedule.

For our preservation team, this was a great logistical achievement and it could only have been done by volunteers. (Commercial contractors would have never agreed to undertake this project without interrupting the daily light operation).

Thank you to all the talented HLPS Volunteer team.



Re-glazing Diagram

CARDINAL GIBBONS HIGH SCHOOL NAUTICAL CLUB

On Saturday May 16th, 2015 THE CARDINAL GIBBONS HIGH SCHOOL NAUTICAL CLUB MEMBERS LED BY THEIR STUDNT PRESIDENT RYAN M. RIZZO, CAME ALONG THE HILLSBORO INLET LIGHTHOUSE TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE RESTORATION PROJECT OF REPLACING 21 HUGE GLASS DIAMOND SHAPE CURVED PANES IN THE LANTERN ROOM.

By: Art Makenian

Students from Cardinal Gibbons High School, consisting of 10 freshmen and seniors, came to the lighthouse on a beautiful Saturday morning to participate partly with the major renovations which it has been going on by the volunteers of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society.

During the short six-hour work, a lot was accomplished by the split crew of 10 students. Half of the crew managed to strip the old paint of the stairway leading from the service room to the gallery. The other half got assigned to clean the interior of the newly installed giant glass panes. Normally, this work could have taken at least a week to accomplish by regular volunteers.

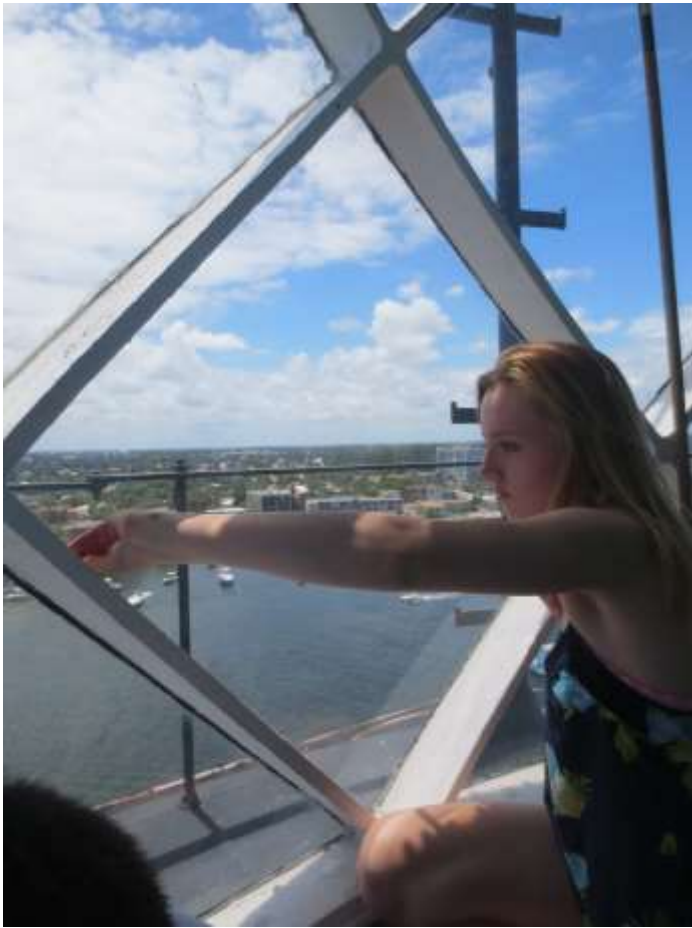
HLPS President wishes for more local High School students to participate in this kind of work on the historic lighthouse. As always, proper community credits will be awarded to the students and their organizations. After all, one



day they will be the caretakers of this unique structure who has been guiding local boat helmsmen home for over 100 years.



CARDINAL GIBBONS HIGH SCHOOL NAUTICAL CLUB



Cardinal Gibbons Students at Hillsboro Lighthouse

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS— NOVEMBER 2014 TO MAY 2015

Allen, Barbara	Crader, Pam	Goebel, Sue	Kugler, Ray & Kimber
Anderson, Michael	Craig, Tom	Goodrow, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald	Kulpinski, Stanley
Anderson, Michelle	Dahl, Peter	Gray, Jeffrey	Kwiatkowski, Melissa
Austin, Elaine M.	Davis, Sarah	Green, Janet	Lachaviec, Yudelkis
Austin, Henry & Bette	De Boo, Douglas	Grippa, Francisco	Landry, Wayne & Mary
Awad-Stupp, Family	Debre, Keyla	Grogan, Ray & Lina	Lanner, Allen & Joyce
Band, William & Tamela	DeVries, Jessica	Guadalupe, Alba	Larson, David & Alicia
Baron, Leslie	Dinzole, David	Guillou, Paul	Latham, Terry & Marion
Barthel, Shannon	Dodson, George & Francoise	Gustavo, Witte	Lavallee, Paul & Pat
Bastiste, Nathalie	Dressler, John & Theo	Hakman, Jeneva	Lehto, Rita
Batzer, Suzanne	Dudgean, Mike & Joan	Hampares, Dr. Katherine	Lenard, Carol
Bean, David R.*	Dwoskin, Hershey	Hayes, Scott & Annie	Lewis, Eric & Nancy
Bellitt, Gary	Eames, Bradley & Donna	Hebron, Steve	Lewis, Maureen
Berringer, Lisa	Ecker, Ron & Chris	Hellman, Fred	Lopez, Alfred
Blatz, Dorothea	Edge, Shawn	Hendee, Karla	Lynch, John & Becky Jean
Bremmer, Karen	Ehrlich, Kim	Hewel, Christine	MacArthur, Lain
Brooks, Dave	Ellis, Allison	Hilling, Levi	Marcantonio, Dennis & Pat
Brown, Matt & Susan	Engel, Ellen	Hillmer, Kathy	Mc Cann, Don & Pam
Bryan, Kevin	Erickson, Carol	Hoffman, Karl	McCaul, Benjamin
Budhok, Christopher	Erickson, Steve	Hogan, Kelly	McClain, Pat
Burgin, Thomas H.	Esse-Dewade, Merryll	Hogan, Linda	Mc Holme, Bonnie
Caraballosa, Glenn & Adrienne	Ewen, Alicia	Houlihan, Eileen	Mc Kenzie, Linda
Carbone, John & Donna	Fairchild, Jodi	Jacobsen, Nils	Meydt, Eileen
Carter, Scott	Felder, Barbara	Janson, Thomas	Michael, Arlene
Casali, Robert & Sandra	Fidelman, John	Jenik, Peter	Milvark, Veronica
Caslow, Ray & Carol	Fleming, Desiree	Johnson, David & Leticia	Misunas, Anthony
Cassels, Heather	Fitzgerald, Debbie	Joslin, Mark	Mogul, John
Catalfimo, Nadine	Fitzpatrick, Jay & Linda	Joswick, Donald & Beth Ann	Morales, Orelly
Chapman, Michelle	Flood, Tonya	Joyce, Jake	Moran, Paulette
Chin, Amanda	Flores, Manuel	Juchno, Glenn	Morningstar, Barb
Clawson, Steve	Frost, Kimberly	Kaler, Michele	Mott, Carol Ann
Clifford, Tara B.	Fryling, Suzanne	Kamm, Lauri	Moxley, David
Clow, Bob	Gagne, Karen	Kilbride, Gary	Murphy, Mary
Cognato, Philip	Gagne, Michel	Kirnos, Patrick	Murray, Michael
Coley, Camille	Garman, Steven & Sara	Kitchen, Howard	Muth, Debra
Collins, Jonathan	Gaudry, Pierre	Klein, Carol	Myers, John
Conaway, Lori	Girl Scout Troop #10305*	Kliza, Gary & Nancy	Nelson, Ronald
Cook, Greta	Giraldo, Melody	Kolb, Frank	Newman, Philip & Cindy
Corson, Eric & Betty	Gleason, Tom	Kraft, Brandy	
Cortese, Lewis & Karen	Goebel, Jacklyn	Krekel, Nicolene	

(Continued on page 11)

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS*(Continued from page 10)*

Newman, Sylvia	Riescher, Helen	Silverman, Ricki Lee	Westbay, Susan
Nichtberger, Bill & Terry	Rees, Valarie	Snyder, Catherine A.	Whelan, Deirdre
Ocean Monarch Social*	Reichert, Jeff	Squitieri, Donna	White, Edward W.
Orlen, Joan C.	Renna Frank	Steiner, Joseph	Whitten, Terrie
Ortega, Olga L.	Richardson, Ashley	Stewart, Carol	Wickland, Heather
Pankin, Maria	Robards, Patty	Stewart, John	Wilken, Jody
Pfarr, William	Robitaille, Theresa	Stevenson, Janice	Will, Bob
Pictrowski, Matthew	Rogala, Rick	Suess, Todd	Wilsman, Mike & Liz
Pierce, William	Rojas, Hedi*	Szilagyi, Janet & Imre	Winter, Teri
Pinto, Richard & Luciana	Ross, Wesley	Tandet, Bonni	Wilson, Clara
Pollack, Bob & Mary Anne	Rudolph III, Clarence F.	Thompson, Barbara	Wollangk, Dorine
Palozzi, Marie	Sacharok, Dorothy	Thorson, John A.	Yarbrough, Lawrence & Annette
Parmer, Jonathan & Lauren	Schortinghouse, Byron	Tom's Auto Body	Yardley, John
Pettinato, Ann M.	Schroppe, Ken	Towers, Margaret	Yoder, Rose Marie
Pompano Proud*	Schueller, Teresa	Towers 2, Margaret	Young, David
Posner, Deborah	Schultz, Susan	Tracey, Dr. Charles	Youngblood, Brian & Gilda-Jo
Primrose, Marianne	Schumann, Stan & Paula	Tramel, Bill & Judy	Zajicek, Kris
Quirk, Joel	Scott, Robert	Trottier, Claire	Zalutsky, Steve
Qiu, Ru	Schapiro, Lisa	Uricoli, Dan	Zeigerman, Guriel
Quon-Dunbar, Deborah & Sharon	Searl, James	Vecitis, Christine	Zhu, Dan
	Secor, James	Versaci, Grace	+ Organization
	Sedlocke, Pam	Waters, M.	* Business
	Shawver, Virginia	Welage, Bert	** Lifetime

MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS: Bryce Batzer, Hib & Martha Casselberry, Town of Hillsboro Beach

MISC: CONTRIBUTIONS: Dorothy Seyfert

IN MEMORY OF JACKIE GLAFF: Betty A. Smith, Hillsboro Shores Improvement Association, Inc.

IN MEMORY OF JAY BARNES: Daniel & Susan Naber, Wannebee Investment Club, Joreen W. Rogers, Sudbury Boat Care, Kathryn Drew

IN MEMORY OF LAURIE LAUTER: Deborah Lyons, Rhonda Beardsworth, Tamara Robb, Teresa Mcallister

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Jade Crosby from Pompano Beach High School volunteer

DID YOU KNOW...

Between 1901 and 1904 Congress authorizes the construction of the lighthouse, approves a total of \$90,000, Dept. of Treasury buys 3 acres of land at the inlet.

In 1905 Barbier Benard et Turenne, Paris, France, awarded contract for lens and turning mechanism rated 550,000 CP for a cost \$7,250. G.W. Brown Construction of West Palm Beach awarded the contract to build 5 buildings for a cost \$21,500.

In 1906 J.H. Gardner Construction Co. of New Orleans gets awarded the contract for clearing the land-laying foundation-re-assembling and erection, cost \$16,792. On March 09, 1907 - Berghell, Alfred A. Keeper was assigned as first lighthouse keeper and continued service until August 1, 1911. Paid \$800/year.



Return Service Requested

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www.saveourlights.com



Photo by Dave Noderer