

**USCG LIGHTSHIP SAILORS ASSOC.
INC.**

Larry Ryan, Editor

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MISSION STATEMENT

TO ASSIST IN THE PRESERVATION OF ALL EXISTING LIGHTSHIPS
TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF LIGHTSHIPS AND THE SAILORS THAT
SAILED ON THEM, TO HONOR THOSE LIGHTSHIP SAILORS THAT HAVE
PERISHED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES



USCG LIGHTSHIP SAILORS ASSOCIATION, Inc.

2014 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM, Dues Form

(please email with any questions: rj@uscglightsailsors.org)

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Please PRINT your information. For changes please submit the long form, or note them on the back of this form.

Membership level and Dues Rate:

- Full Membership - VET or MBR. (\$25.00 Annually) Group/Business (\$50.00 Annually) Life Membership (\$300 1x life time fee)
Annual Dues period runs on the fiscal year; October 1 thru September 30.

LSA Donation (Optional):

- General Fund Lightship Preservation

Dues Total: _____

Enclose this form with your check or money order, made out to:

"USCG LIGHTSHIP SAILORS ASSOCIATION, Inc."

Donation Amount: _____

Mail to: **Ron Janard Membership Director • 1 Melvin Ave, Beverly MA 01915**

Total Enclosed: _____

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THE FOG HORN



I WILL NOT ABANDON YOU

LIGHTSHIP NOT IN
CORRECT POSITION

Volume 4 Issue 43 Newsletter of The U.S. Coast Guard Lightship Sailors Association
Fall 2013

Writings of The President

Larry Ryan

PRESIDENT

• Larry Ryan

1st VICE PRESIDENT

• Bill Quigley

SECRETARY

• Deb Dasch

TREASURER

• Fred A. Pelger

DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP

• Ron Janard

ARTS AND GRAPHICS

• Dennis Cosmo, Past President

DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

• Roland Holloway

CHAIRMAN OF THE BY-LAWS

• Dave Addicott

WEB MASTER

• Rick Gryder

HISTORIAN

• Ron Janard

CHAPLAIN

• Rev. Adrian Van Houten

LAISON TO WOMEN'S AUX

• Rev. Adrian Van Houten

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To my brother Lightship Sailors, Life Members, Founding Members and Friends: What a great time we had in Buffalo, I really am having trouble with where to start. We had a great turnout, which is what is required to justify the expenses that the organization incurs. We had several new members, and several that have been members for years attending their first reunion, we are always please to see new faces to associate with the names.

The General Membership Meeting (also known as our Annual Business Meeting which is required by the IRS to maintain our 501 C (3) status) was the best attended yet. We also had more direct input from the floor than in the past which is really good for the organization. All of the Officers and Directors presented reports of their responsibilities then on to the new business of electing two officers to finish out the current one year term, Bill Quigley as 1st VP and re-elected yours truly as president for the same term. As always, Bob Gubitosi in concert with the Ladies Auxiliary, did a fantastic job running our hospitality room and The Lightship Sailors Social. Saturday's Memorial Service aboard the USS Little Rock in the Naval and Military Park was a huge hit (the brown bag lunch from Subway was almost OK). We were truly honored to have The O'Connor Family join us in memory of their Grand Father, Hugh Williams, Skipper of the LV-82 lost in the great storm November 1913. Ironic that we should meet on this solemn occasion just days before the 100th anniversary of the sinking. We were also joined by the Canadian Historians responsible for establishing the Memorial to ship and crew on the Canadian side, which resulted in making the connections between The LSA and the family.

The Saturday Evening Banquet was enjoyable for all. Dennis presented our quests with stone memorials in memory of their grandfather, our speaker traveled from Texas presenting a riveting talk to the group, followed by our annual auction, superbly done by Adrian Van Houten.

Our sincere thanks to all the donors of items as well as the buyers, this again helps offset some of our unexpected expenses, besides it is a fun hour.

Since the meeting ended, Bill Quigley, 1st VP has volunteered to serve in a new position on the Board of Directors, as Director of Publicity. This is a new and needed position to hopefully get the word out about The LSA. This again will be a joint effort, mainly between Bill and Rick Gryder, Webmaster.

In closing, we have experienced some serious difficulty having our newsletters delivered, we don't know why and it is not isolated. We have experienced delivery difficulties from Delaware, California to Oregon. We sent out four editions a year, if you don't receive the four, please let me know, Thanks.

Help Keep the Light Burning,
Warm Regards to All,

Larry





Membership Directors Report Calendar Year 2013

Lightship Veterans, Family and Friends,

It has been almost a full year, of fulfilling the Membership Directors Position. It has been a new experience for sure. There have been learning curves in the process, and I wish to thank Our President, Larry Ryan, Treasurer, Fred Pelger, LSA Past Membership Directors, Everett St. Louis, and specially Dave Orzack. After All, I believe Dave, was the Mastermind of the current Program.

I want to apologize for any 2013 Membership Cards that, may have arrived a bit later, than they should have. I Thank You, for your patience. Currently the design is in the works, for the 2014 Membership Cards, so those that have paid 2014 dues, please be patient. You may have received them, by the time you are reading this.

Current Membership

Currently, for 2013, LSA Active Membership : 171

91 LS Vets / 23 LSA Members (Family Members, Friends, Interested Parties)

57 Life Members (Included in Paid Membership) compared to 56 in 2012. There was a Single New Life Member for 2013

Total of 114 Paid Memberships

Total of 57 Life Members

Crossed The Bar

We lost SIX Lightship Veterans, this past year.... Or that, the LSA had been made aware of their Passing. One had Passed in 2011! It is very disheartening to hear of any Ship Mates, "Crossing The Bar" The LSA has a Process in place, to send Our Sincere Condolences, to Family Members. We all realize, Crossing, is a difficult time, but it is very important to the LSA Family, to be notified in a timely fashion.

PLEASE, If you are notified or hear of a Crossing of a Fellow Lightship Veteran, Contact Larry Ryan, or Myself. Of course, this way, Dennis can be made aware of the Passing, and send Condolences in behalf of the LSA. Thanks, *Ron*

REUNION 2013 IN PICTURES 2013 BUMPER STICKER





Ron Janard with the bell off of WAL 189 in main lobby of our host hotel



Fred Pelger and Deb Dasch at the registration table

2013 General Membership Meeting, the best attended ever. We had 52 chairs, plus 10 officers and directors.



Secretary's Report

Deb Dasch

Happy Thanksgiving to all Members of the LSA,

We had a WONDERFUL reunion in Buffalo last month and I think everyone really enjoyed themselves! As always, sea stories were in abundance in our Hospitality room and we're grateful to all those who share it with us. We've had a lot of positive feedback on all aspects of the reunion.

There was a good attendance at our membership meeting on Thursday and everyone enjoyed the wine and cheese social that evening. Friday was a fun day at Niagara Falls, whether you went to the Maid of the Mist – where you got drenched – despite the lovely blue ponchos – or went to the Casino and got a little poorer! Some of the members must have had good luck at the Casino, they went back, at least once!

The tours at the Naval Park were enjoyable, we had great guides who patiently listened to some of our sea stories. The memorial service Saturday on the Fan Tail of the Little Rock was a solemn and respectful tribute to our comrades who were lost in the line of duty and those who crossed the bar in the past year. Having three members of the O'Connor family there and participating in the service made it even more moving.

Our banquet was great – and undisturbed – this year. We had fun with auction, which was a huge success. The highlight of the auction was a one-day deep sea fishing trip offered by one of our members, Richard Jennings. The lucky winner can take the trip out of Charleston next year around the same time as the reunion. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Jennings and to all those who donated items for the auction.

We welcomed Bill Quigley to the Board of Directors as First Vice President, and you can now view a picture of each Board member on our website – we're quite a handsome bunch if I do say so!

Deb Dasch
Secretary



VETERANS AFFAIRS REPORT

Roland Holloway

Director of Veterans Affairs

I HAVE SOME GOOD NEWS AND SOME BAD NEWS. The good news is that some members who have applied are now receiving benefits. The bad news is that some members are still waiting.

The VA has whittled down a backlog of 611,000 claims to 400,855 claims. Please be patient and keep trying. The VA states they are processing claims from over a year first. If you Google va.gov you will be able to obtain any form you might need and a lot of information about VA benefits. Start Form 180 (rev 5/12) will enable you to request your military records.

We had a great reunion in Buffalo, NY and I look forward to seeing you in Charleston, SC next fall. *Roland*



A Short Sea Story

My Coastie Career

I was 17 when I joined the Coast Guard in December 1944 and 18 when I graduated from Boot Camp in January 1945. When I graduated from Boot Camp, our physical trainer and boxing instructor, Lt. Commander Jack Dempsey presented each of us with his autographed picture and a list of training reminders (attached). He was a great guy and leader. Boot camp was at Manhattan Beach, Brooklyn, NY.

During the winter 1945, I attended a couple schools, Motor Mack and Fire Fighter. After graduating from these schools, I volunteered for Deep Sea Diving School and was sent to the U.S. Navy Yards in Washington, D.C. This was strictly for diving in hard hat diving suits. While I was in D.C., President Roosevelt passed away and Germany surrendered. It was truly a beautiful sight to see the Capital and the entire East Coast come alive with lights after years of total blackout.

My first assignment was torpedo diving recovery at the Piney Point, MD Torpedo Testing Range. The torpedoes were shot off large Navy barges to test their accuracy. After the trial run, the torpedoes would sink leaving a trail of air blimps as a torpedo trail. Radio signals sent small boats to the area to drop buoys with anchors as markers. The next day our dive tug boat, the Crilley, would proceed to the buoy area so the 'Hard Hats' could locate and retrieve the sunken torpedoes.

Next I served on a newly commissioned oil and gas tanker ship, the AOG Klickitat, refueling air craft carriers in the North Atlantic. My assignment was to serve as the ship's diver. My diving equipment consisted of a wet suit and an air compressor with attached air hoses. I was also assigned to the fire and rescue team. Soon the war ended with Japan's surrender.

My final stop was two cold, snowy, windy months aboard the Lightship Nantucket 112 as its radio operator during the winter of 1946. Strange as it may seem, this time was eventful. I received my first guitar and plunked along to the dismay of my long suffering shipmates. The highlight of my time aboard this historic ship was the arrival of a Life Magazine reporter to take pictures and report on the life and history of a lightship. The story was published in the June 1946 edition. With the story and pictures was one picture of a bearded guy with a pipe in his mouth looking thru the range scope. That was me, a real old salt.

Many years later, I changed my name from Fallbacher to Fallbach. A copy of the Life Magazine was sent to the Lightship Sailors Association for its historical files.

Remember These Important Things From Your Physical Training Course In The Coast Guard Training Station, Manhattan Beach.

1. A good offense is the best defense.
2. Get off first, hit the enemy before he hits you.
3. Keep your hands up at all times.
4. Always keep your chin down.
5. Always keep your left hand out in your opponent's face, don't drop your hands after punching.
6. When you leave here, keep yourself in condition by doing roadwork, shadow boxing, calisthenics and any exercise that will keep you fit. All competitive sports are fine. This may be the saving of your life as well as thousands of others.
7. Have confidence in yourself, remember when you are fired your enemy may be more fired; keep on punching. Remember we have but one aim, and that is to win this war, and by keeping yourself in condition, the job will be finished that much sooner.

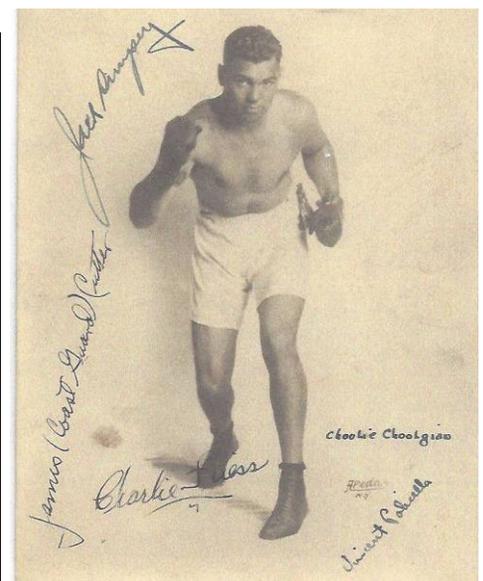
You have now completed your course in Physical Fitness and we appreciate your splendid spirit and cooperation while here at Manhattan Beach.

Good Luck To You From

Lieutenant Commander Jack Dempsey and Staff

The contents of this page supplied to The Fog Horn courtesy of Tom Fallbach, Sedalia, CO.

The information on USCG Boot Camp of 1944 was the subject of a quick quiz presented to the members at the General Meeting. We had one correct answer, and I would not have known the answer.





Group gathering inside the Naval and Military Park.

Impressive 'sea of red' boarding the Little Rock, the starting point on the tour of The DD USS Sullivans and the Submarine.



Under cover waiting for lunch and the start of the Memorial service



Aboard the USS Little Rock, Skip Coleman, retiring the ships colors in preparation for presenting the last Ensign flown on a Lightship Station, The WLV 613 on Nantucket Station.

BELOW: Memorial Service Invocation



Bill Quigley, MC, Dennis Cosmo, Bell Ringer, Adrian Van Houten, Chaplain, Larry Ryan, Pres.



Our honored guests, Grandson, Great Grandson, Grand daughter of Hugh Williams lost on Buffalo Station along with 5 other crewmen, November 1913. Bruce O'Connor, Tim O'Connor, Patricia Sharp, at Taps





U.S. COAST GUARD

Benediction, closing our Memorial Services of 2013



Members on board the USS Little Rock for our Memorial Service



Below: Annual Patch for 2013



Members, Family and Friends seated for the Memorial Service

GENERAL QUARTERS Chiefs Corner



ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION FOR 2014

We will be meeting in Charleston, SC October 13-16, 2014.

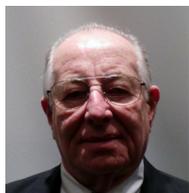
Please note the days of the week have been changed from our routine of the past several years. We will be meeting Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Hopefully this will help us avoid having a high school home coming dance or huge wedding next door during our banquet, as we have faced the past two years.

One of the highlights should be a tour of the new Legend Class Cutter the 'HAMILTON' hosted by Senior Chief Addicott.

WINNER OF THE THREE NIGHT HOTEL STAY

Long time member and supporter of the LSA, Peter Lalik, won the 3 night hotel stay in Buffalo, and well deserved.

Every year we have a raffle for a three night stay, congratulations to Pete.



I want to thank those that voted that I should represent the LSA as your 1st Vice President to fill out the last year of this term. I look forward to serving as Director of Publicity with the aim of maintaining and increasing both membership and attendance at our annual meeting. Anyone that has information or ideas on where we can post our information will be greatly appreciated. Please contact me with your thoughts. Thanks, *Bill*

As a result of several requests, we have Tee Shirts with our logo for sale At \$16.00 each includes shipping. Be sure and list your size.

We also have annual Patches for sale (opposite page) \$2.00 along with jackets \$50, caps \$5.00etc. Bumper stickers are available for \$3.00.

Please send your check (No Cash, please. Per our By-laws Larry does not handle cash or have access to our cash accounts) with name and address to Larry Ryan, 13 West Hwy "N", Clinton, MO 64735

Thanks, Dennis Cosmo



COMMENTS FROM YOUR WEB-MASTER

Not a report, just a comment or two on the success we are having as a result of an active Web-Site. As has been reported in past issues, we were contacted by the Canadian Historians and assisted in establishing a memorial for the LV-82 and crew on the Canadian side opposite Buffalo. The LSA was contacted through our Website. As the word spread primarily through local newspapers in Michigan where the LV-82 was originally based, we again was contacted by the Grand Son and Grand Daughter of the Skipper lost on station in 1913, and they consequently were invited to attend our meeting as our honored guests at our memorial service, each in turn rang the bell for each crewman lost on the LV-82.

Resulting in a very meaningful service for all. Our thanks to all that contacted us.

Rick



EDITORS SPECIAL NOTE: All pictures courtesy of Rick Gryder and Ron Janard



Updated 11/18/2013

CROSSED OVER THE BAR 2013

Lightship Sailor Veteran

S. William Haney
101/525 Brenton Reef 1949-1951

Crossed Over

Sept 9, 2011

LSA Notified

March 20, 2013

William B. Coe
189 Diamond 1947, 107 Winter Quarter 1950, 84 Relief (Charleston, SC) 1954

Nov 6 2012

May 19, 2013

Richard Kilroy
95/519 Relief (4th Dist) 1962-1964

March 21, 2013

March 22, 2013

Arnold G. Holt
83/508 Relief 1957

April 13, 2013

April 16, 2013

Neil Charles Branson
100/523 Blunts Reef 1953-'55

July 12, 2013

July 19, 2013

Chuck Jennings
79/506 Barnegat 1954-1955

July 23, 2013

July 23, 2013

**DUTY WELL DONE,
REST IN PEACE**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Rev. Adrian Van Houten

Dear LSA members and friends. Reflecting back to the annual LSA business and memorial service, what a great time everyone experienced. How nice it was to greet each one of the folks who attended and made the trip to Buffalo. Realizing how important the future of the LSA is and preserving the history of the Lightships and her sailors, seeing the dedication of the members is really encouraging. The wealth of experience aboard the Lightships each member brings keeps the memories alive. On a personal note thank you all for the confidence you have given me as your Chaplain. It's my pleasure to serve you. I would also want to thank you for putting up with me at the auction. I think a good time was had by all. Start planning ahead for Charleston next year. Have wonderful Christmas celebrating the birth of our savior Jesus Christ. Invite Him to join your family during this special season of the year. Your Chaplain Adrian Van Houten

