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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





I WILL NOT ABANDON YOU

THE FOG HORN

LIGHTSHIP NOT IN
CORRECT POSITION



Volume 5 Issue 48 Newsletter of The U.S. Coast Guard Lightship Sailors Association
Winter 2015 EDITION

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My Brother Lightship Sailors, Founders, Life Members and Friends:

I was fortunate to have had the honor of speaking with one of our Life Members since the last edition of our newsletter. In that conversation he offered his appreciation to and for this group in keeping our Lightship Sailor History alive. Very kind words from a highly successful Lightship Sailor. It struck me that we are only temporary stewards of that history long past now, 32 years since the last days of Lightships. Let us be good stewards of our history. Your elected board of directors join me is accepting this obligation as a sacred duty to future generations. And, that time is flying by with our average age. My close on this message, repeated four times a year- "Keep the Light Shining". Translated means this will require all of our efforts and support. I'll take this opportunity to remind all of the readers of this publication, the cost alone to print and mail each edition is just short of \$1.00 each. If you have not renewed your membership for 2015, please do so using the form on page two (the reverse side of the cover sheet which has your name and address). I will also add just as a reminder, as it is a fairly frequent question, your organization is governed by those members elected as officers and directors at large by the membership. We are all 100% volunteers, accepting zero compensation for our time and efforts. We pay the same dues, and have the same expenses at our annual meetings as the rest of the attendees. The organization does have expenses, this newsletter has the most expense of all of our activities outside of the annual meeting. Specifically to name a few: Incorporation expense, Web Site expenses annual mailing permits.

We will have further details on our 2015 annual gathering in the next edition of this newsletter. The very minimum information is on page 7. I would like to remind everyone well in advance, there is a lot to see in the New London/Groton/ Mystic area .

Our special room rates will apply one day in advance and one day after our official meeting days, which should give everyone ample time to see at least a part of the attractions that we will not have time to see as a group.

Monday October 19, 2:00 PM is our annual business meeting. This is the annual membership meeting and the time to get involved with the governing and management of the association, please plan on attending. Until next time:

Keep the Light Shinning Bright

Larry

Write Down, therefore, what you have seen, and what is happening, and what will happen afterwards.

Revelation 1:19



NANTUCKET LV-112/534

“Lost” Builders Plate Returned!

Most Veterans or visitors, boarding the USLM LV-112 (United States Lightship Museum), at the East Boston Shipyard and Marina, for a tour would not notice the retired Coast Guard Vessel had been missing a valuable piece of its heritage. An item so important to any vehicle or vessel, similar to a VIN, or serial number on your everyday vehicle,

The Builders Plate.

For decades, it's whereabouts were lost to history. Few Guardians, volunteers or general public would be “savvy” to the fact, that the ship had been completed, and a Builders Plate would be attached securely to the hull. Even the exact location to its mounting location is lost to history. It is a common fact, when a vessel is decommissioned, the Helm and Bell, are usually the first items to be “liberated”. By Crewmember, Skipper, or Salvager. Occasionally the Builders Plate would follow, depending on the Ships History. As of this past Summer, it appeared the whereabouts of the LV-112 Builders Plate, fell into the hands of history also.

During the past year, Loren Peters, retired Navy, USCG, Engineer, Volunteer and Historian, has visited Washington D.C. and searched Navy and Coast Guard Archives for various documents pertaining to Lightship Historical documents. Loren discovered a 1975 Newspaper article and news photograph, describing the last C/O of the LV-112/534 Robert Rainville, CWO-4, presenting the Builders Plate to representatives of the Nantucket Shipwreck and Life Saving Museum, located on the island of Nantucket, for a permanent display.

At the same time, the ships wheel was donated to the Rockland, ME Museum represented by Ken Black. The wheel was later returned.

Loren forwarded this valuable information to the USLM's President, Robert Mannino Jr..Bob, forwarded this information to me, I suggested we contact Dick Mack. Dick is a former LS Veteran, who served on the 112/534, has been a Resident of Nantucket, for nearly all of his life. Dick is also a Member of the LSA, an Interpreter/Docent at the NSLM and a personal friend.

Once contacted, Dick promptly informed Bob and I, the NSLM Board had a scheduled Meeting the following week, and he would present this to the Board. In the meantime, Dick and Lisa McCandless, (Asst. Director/Curator, searched the Museum storage for the Builders Plate. They located the Bronze Plate, and were the first to view it in decades. Many staff members had changed over the years, either misplaced it, or were not aware of its historical significance, let alone what it's purpose was.

Fortunately, The BOD graciously offered to return the Plate to its rightful place, the LV-112. A date was set in December for Bob, Loren and myself to visit Nantucket, and transfer ownership. However New England weather interfered and the Ferry Service was cancelled, so the visit was put off till the following week.

Dec. 15th, The three of us, boarded the Ferry, bright and early on a nice frigid winter day, and when we arrived, greeted by Lisa at the dock. She drove to the NSLM, where our savior, Dick Mack had been waiting our arrival. Once Friendships were renewed and introductions exchanged, the long lost Builder's Plate was brought out for viewing, and we were given a tour of the Museum. Commencing the tour, the USLM was given ownership.

There is still a small detail...are there any Lightship Sailors reading this, that may know the original Mounting Place for the Builders Plate? After “missing” for 37 years, the Plate has returned home.

Ron J.



Never believe anything until it has been officially denied.
Claud Cockburn, British Journalist

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY

Bill Quigley, 1st VP



As we turn the page on the calendar to the year 2015 let's hope we can make it as successful as 2014. In 2014 we added 10 new members to our roster.

The planning of the Charleston Reunion had some glitches, but as always Larry brought it thru to a very successful reunion. 2015 is going to be a great reunion also. What a great location! It will be held at the Holiday Inn, 35 Governor Winthrop Rd., New London CT from Oct 19th thru the 21st. Why not mark your calendars right now so you won't forget. Come and join us, right in the center of a lot of USCG activity. Keep in mind that this is foliage time in New England, so you might want to make your reservations early.

I have already requested 2015 reunion notices to be published in various publications. The American Legion magazine, for one. We got a lot of response from that listing last year. If anyone has a suggestion as to where you would like to see a reunion notice listed, please get in touch with me at 603-966-8690, or wanderingmanitook1@aol.com.

Now, don't forget, if you see a bumper sticker, window decal, or someone wearing any kind of USCG clothing approach that person and tell them about the LSA. What a great way to get new members!

I hope that you have a safe and healthy winter.

From my Texas Station
Bill



CWO Richard Rainville and Hood BMC at the decommissioning of The Lightship 112/534 Nantucket March

In the event you have forgotten, this is a reminder of our service.

(Pictures below and left courtesy of Peter Bombard)



VETERANS AFFAIRS

Roland Holloway, Director of Veterans Affairs

Fog Horn Article – February 2015

Fellow Veterans,

I'm hoping you have had a happy, healthy New Year. The VA is making changes every day. You can try and keep up with them on the internet or sometimes by reading magazines such as the American Legion. It is important to try and keep up if you have any issues, as some of the changes may affect you.

I mentioned in the last edition of the Fog Horn about the lawyer who had spoken at the reunion on asbestos related illnesses. If anyone wants to contact him with questions, please let Larry or myself know and we will send you his information.

If you have hearing aids that are old, you should schedule an appointment to have your hearing rechecked. You may get a new style hearing aid that fits your present hearing needs. You may have to wait because this is now the largest request the VA is receiving. Be patient and good luck.

The VA recently sent out a temporary Choice card that can be used in your community medical facility. Several requirements are necessary. If you have to wait more than 30 days for an appointment at the VA. If you are more than 40 miles from a VA center or you need to travel by boat or plane. You must call 866-606-8198 to see if you are eligible.

Roland



RULES FOR SALUTING US FLAG

The National Defense Authorization of 2008 and amended by the same act in 2009 authorized out of uniform active duty service members, military retirees and veterans to render a hand salute during hoisting, lowering, or passing of the U.S.

Flag.

Here is the actual text from the law:

**Sec. 595. MILITARY SALUTE FOR THE FLAG DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES NOT IN UNIFORM AND BY VETERANS**

Section 301 (b)(1) of title 36 United States Code, is amended striking subparagraphs (A) through (C) and inserting new subparagraphs:

- (A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and remain that position until the last note;
- (B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform: and
- (C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart;

Note: Part (C) applies to those not in the military and non-veterans. The phrase "men not in uniform" refers to civil service uniforms like police, fire fighters, and letter carriers.....

GENERAL QUARTERS

Chiefs Corner



LIGHTSHIP SAILORS ANNUAL REUNION-2015

HOLIDAY INN NEW LONDON, CT.

Reservations: 860-443-7000

October 19-21, 2015 (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)

Room Rates \$115.00 per day, including days before and after our official meeting days.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE



Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely.

But this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats, in open battle, man-to-man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our Home Fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory!

Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

On left is a reproduction of a message from General Dwight David Eisenhower to the invasion forces participating in the D-Day invasion of Europe, June 1944. Each soldier carried this during the invasion. This was "Leadership" unknown today at this level. Yes, if allowed we could accept the honest truth today!

MISSION OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

The United States Coast Guard is a multimissioned maritime service and one of the five Armed Forces. Its mission is to protect the public, the environment, and the U.S. economic interests- in the Nation's ports and waterways, along the coast, on international waters, or in any maritime region as required to support national security.





Updated 1/31/2015

CROSSED OVER THE BAR

2013-14

Lightship Sailor Veteran

Raymond J. Shea

LV 101/524 1955

Daniel Lane

112/534 1960

Norman Satterwaite

US Navy, WWII South Pacific Landing Craft LSA Member

Robert J. Gubitosi, Sr.

112/534 Nantucket 1957-1961 [Past LSA 1st VP]

Walter Allen Smith

613 Ambrose 1967

Herbert P. Lange

116/538 Chesapeake 1958-59

R.C. Soaper

111/533 Portland 1953

Crossed Over

December 10, 2013

August 31, 2014

Jan. 4, 2014

July 10, 2014

June 4, 2011

Dec 19, 2013

Dec 6, 2013

LSA Notified

January 24, 2015

Sept 12,, 2014

Sept. 8, 2014

July 10, 2014

May 23, 2014

June 12, 2014

February, 2014

**DUTY WELL DONE,
REST IN PEACE**



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Rev. Adrian Van Houten

Dear Friends, Members with the LSA.

Thinking about the coming year and events that will take place involving the LSA. One of the decisions that comes to mind is travel. As we get older the traveling gets weary. I am praying for guidance that the ones who plan on attending will give themselves plenty of time going, enjoying the reunion and the surrounding pleasures and returning home safely. I know it is going to be a wonderful time in Conn. to held by all. Lots to see and do.

Plane ahead. God bless you all and may you experience Gods Grace. Your Chaplin,

Adrian



**CREED OF THE US COAST GUARD
HONOR-RESPECT-DEVOTION TO DUTY**

Membership Director / Historian Report Winter / 2015

Greetings Lightship Sailors, Family and Friends,

This Winter appeared baron in Massachusetts, until this week, the last week of January...over two feet of snow in a single day..Mother Nature had held back, and let it drop in one Storm...Thanks.. Quite a few of you, served or lived in New England and know what it is like. Personally I like it ! HA!

Membership Renewal has been somewhat steady for 2015. We already have a new 2015 Member! Let's Welcome, Joseph Finocchio of Maspeth, N.Y.. Joe is active in the Coast Guard Reserve. We look forward to meeting Joe, at our Reunion in Connecticut this Fall. Let me mention as in the past, the LSA does not normally send out Renewal Notices. So please again, while the subject may be on your mind, get out your trusty Checkbook, and renew your dues for 2015, if you haven't already. (Address Below). It is very easy to forget, and YOUR Membership, is what keeps the LSA alive! Without LSA Membership, Your President, Larry Ryan, and Board Members, wouldn't have much to keep them busy! No Fog Horn, No Reunion, No more Camaraderie... A Big, Thank You, goes out to,You, who have done so already

FYI, The Ambrose/Nantucket II WAL 613, has been purchased by Mr. Bill Golden, owner of the WAL 612 Nantucket I. The two Sisters are currently both in New Bedford for either equipment updates or Restoration. The 613 sat dormant, more or less for the last 20 or so years in Wareham Massachusetts. Both Vessels have quite the history; it is fantastic to see they will be taken care of.

Lastly, there a lot of unknown Visitors to the LSA Web Site, that we neither hear from, or know. But occasionally We receive an Email, from a visitor, as Larry received recently. A Mr. Raymond Shea, emailed Larry, to inform him, he came upon the LSA site, while searching for information about his Dad. Raymond J. Shea, crossed the bar, 12/10/2013, served aboard the 524 STONEHORSE, in 1955. He also served on the EAST-WIND. A USCG Veteran of 20 years, his family returned him to the Sea, off Chatham Light and Stonehorse Shoals, July, 2014.

Keep Warm! Sincerely, RonJanard 1 Melvin Ave. Beverly, Ma. 01915



