



I WILL NOT ABANDON YOU

# THE FOG SIGNAL



LIGHTSHIP NOT IN  
CORRECT POSITION

Volume 3 Issue 12 Newsletter of The U.S. Coast Guard Lightship Sailors Association Summer 2006

**PRESIDENT**

• Larry Ryan

**1st VICE PRESIDENT**

• Jay McCarty

**2nd VICE PRESIDENT**

• Bob Gubitosi

**SECRETARY**

• Rick Bennett

**TREASURER**

• Fred A. Pelger

**DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

• Bernie Byrnes

• Chris Bennett

• Larry Strauss

**FOUNDER**

• Harry Kravitski

**COMMITTEES:**

**MEMBERSHIP**

• Jay McCarty

**VETERANS AFFAIRS:**

• Bernie Byrnes

**AZOLLARY LIASON:**

• Bob Gubitosi

• Chaplain

• Rev. John Hughes

• Dennis Cosmo

• Arts and Graphics

A message about Membership	2
Membership List (cont)	3
Secretaries Report	4
A Short Sea Story	5
Lightship of the Quarter	6
Lightship Sailor of the Quarter	7
Veterans Affairs	8
General Quarters	9
Reunion Overview and registration	

## Writings of The President

Larry Ryan

Brother Lightship Sailors, Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, and Founding Members, I cordially invite you to join with us at our Eighth Annual General Membership Meeting and Reunion in Seattle, WA October 6-9, 2006. This is also the year you elect the officers that will guide the organization for the next two years. Please take note of the 'Election Notice' included in this edition.

I would like to take a moment to bring you up to date with pending and current LSA business: The past two years have been exciting, and filled with success stories. In the past two years we have an energized Board of Directors, all with assigned responsibilities for the benefit of the members and friends of The LSA. We have managed to get The Fog Signal organized and mailed out on a quarterly basis for the past 7 quarters, plus a special mailing this spring. Our finances and expenses are in line with the number of members, thanks to Fred Pelger, LSA Treasurer. Our issue with the hotel in Portsmouth, while not resolved, has been placed on the back burner at least for now.

Your organization operates on the theory that the committee approach to governing is the most appropriate, this has worked well over the past two years. The Board of Directors works as a committee on every major decision by public vote, should there be a required By-law change or amendment, after appropriate motions and discussions the motion is submitted to Larry Strauss, Chairman of the By-laws Committee, for wording and a vote, this then will be presented to the General Membership for ratification. The results of any legislative action is now contained in the report by Rick Bennett, 'Secretaries Report'. Bernie Byrnes has an awesome task as your representative for Veterans Affairs, he has been directly responsible for more money coming into you than anyone else. Dennis Cosmo has been great work in Arts and Graphics, again saving our limited dollars. Bob Gubitosi, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP has been working behind the scenes for future meetings, and helping us meet our obligations of our 'Mission Statement', preserving our history. Your 1<sup>st</sup> VP, and Membership Director, has the huge and time consuming job of keeping the roster and mailing lists up to date. In the past two years the Membership List has been refined and organized where we can be in touch with the members. And the principal method of staying in touch, with *The Fog Signal*., the rest is up to your contributing Board Members, and most important, you the members that respond to my invitations to submit your pictures and stories. And lets not forget our Chaplain, The Rev. John Hughes, as he is better connected than myself, we depend on his guidance and prayers.

For now,  
*Fair Winds,*  
*Larry Ryan*

# A Message About Membership

Jay McCarthy Chairman

## Reunion Message from Membership

To All Hands;

For this newsletter, I am presenting a different report than I have in the past. As our 2006 Reunion is rapidly approaching, I felt this would be a good time for all our Lightship Veterans to scan the list below for old shipmates. If you see someone you know and want to get in contact with them, please email or call me and I will arrange for them to contact you. Anyone not wanting to be contacted, please advise me.

Our Reunion in Seattle on the first weekend in October, would be a great opportunity to get re-united with these old shipmates.

If you know of anyone not on this list, please have them fill in and return the attached Membership Application, we will be happy to get them aboard.

We have separated The LSVETERANS from the LSA Members only for the purpose of making it easier for these men to find old shipmates.

Names in **RED** color signify **Founding Members**.

Fair Winds and Following Seas,

Jay McCarthy

email: [jiment@bellsouth.net](mailto:jiment@bellsouth.net)

Telephone:

561-495-1761

1st. VP and Membership Director

### List of Lightship Sailor Veterans Current in their 2006 Dues

NAME	Hull #	Ship Name	Served	NAME	Hull #	Ship Name	Served
ARBUTHNOT, Robert J.	112/534	Nantucket	1973-1975	MORRIS, Theodore J.	92/513	Umatilla renamed Relief	1959-1960
	612	Nantucket	1975		113/535	Swiftpart	1960-1961
AKIMCHUK, James W.	118/539	Cross Rip	1958-1960	MORRISON, Thomas E.	92/516	Relief "Coal Burner" West Coast	1949-1950
AMACKER, Milton W.	102/525	Brenton Reef	1955-1959	NELSON, Richard W.	86/511	Buzzards	1956-1958
ARONSEN, Bert R.	113/535	Swiftpart	1954-1955	NOLAN, Robert K.	110/532	Cross Rip	1954-1955
BAILEY, C. William	196	Pollock Rip	1946		106/528	Relief (MA)	1956-1957
BANNAN, George G.	112/534	Nantucket	1956-1958	NOVICKI, Edward W.	110/532	Cross Rip	1957-1958
BART, William	109/531	Relief (6th District)	1946-1949	O'CONNOR, Roderick J.	109	New Orleans	1970-1971
BENDER, Edward R.	115/537	Frying Pan Shoals	1953-1955	ORSZAK, David F. "Dave"	115/517	Frying Pan	1960-1961
BENDER, Louis	79/506	Barnegat	1949-1951	OSTLUND, Eugene G.	92/516	Relief "Coal Burner" West Coast	1950-1951
	613	Ambrose	1954-1956		605	Blunts Reef	1966-1968
	605	Overfalls	1956-1957	PATERSON, Alexander E.	102/525	Brenton Reef	1951-1953
BENNETT, Richard A.	612	Portland	1972-1973	PELGER, Fred A.	604	Columbia	1957
	612	Nantucket I	1982-1985	PIERCE, Bobbie R.	79/505	Relief (NY) "Survivor"	1957-1960
BENNETT, Vincent S.	75/594	Relief (West Coast)	1953		84/509	Relief (NY)	1960-1961
BERNELLA, Jerrold G.	115/532	Frying Pan Shoals	1958-1959	PINKHAM, Edwin "Jay"	118/539	Boston	
BESSETTE, Roland S.	118/539	Boston	1963-1965	PLETNICK, Jerome J.	117/514	Nantucket	1950-1952
BIERMAAS, John	78/505	Relief (NY)	1948-1951	QUIGLEY, William	106/528	Relief (MA)	1956-1957
BLAKELEY, Willis	604	Columbia	1976-1978	RAINVILLE, Richard E.	112/534	Nantucket	1973-1974
BOLTON, Charles W.	613	Ambrose	1960-1962		612	Nantucket	1974-1975
BOMBARD, Peter B.	112/534	Nantucket	1973-1975	RATCLIFFE, Joseph B.	83/508	San Francisco	1948-1949
	612	Nantucket	1975	RIKSEN, Dan R.	100/532	Relief / San Francisco	1967-1969
BRANSON, Neil Charles	113/523	Blunts Reef	1953-1955	RINGO, Gene C.	88/513	Umatilla	1952
BROOKS, Alfred Y.	118/539	Cornfield	1951-1952		113/535	Swiftpart	1952-1954
BROWN, Richard A.	79/506	Barnegat	1954-1956		196	Relief renamed Umatilla	1961-1964
BRUNK, Peter A.	112/534	Nantucket	1970-1971	ROBINSON, Richard B.	88/513	Umatilla Reef	1946-1948
BÜCKNER, William A.	604	Columbia	1950-1951	ROLLER, Scott	189	H.O., Five Fathom, Boston	1971-1973
BURBAGE, E. "Lee"	78/505	Relief (NY)	1957-1958	RONGNER, George E.	86/511	Buzzards Bay	1955-1957
BURGESS, Joseph F. Jr.	101/524	Stonehorse	1963	ROUNDS, Russell E.	53/501	Stone Horse	1950-1951
	101/524	Cross Rip	1964	ROUSE, John	110/532	Barnegat	1966-1967
BURKE, Joseph M. "Joe"	612	Nantucket I	1979-1980	RYAN, Lawrence R. "Larry"	605	Overfalls, Blunts Reef	1960-1961
BURTON, Robert P.	111/533	Portland	1953-1955	SANDLIN, James Ervin	112/534	Nantucket	1957-1960
BYRNES, Bernard A.	93/515	Relief (Portsmouth VA)	1954-1955	SCHMIDT, Herman "Hank"	85/510	Relief/Exam Vessel (MA)	1942-1943
	85/510	Boston	1955-1957		196	Nantucket	1960-1962
CAMERON, Douglas R.	613	Relief (MA)	1970-1972		113/535	Relief (WA)	1962-1963
CAMPBELL, Neal R.	106/528	Relief (Boston)	1961-1963	SHINGLE, Robert C.	116/538	Chesapeake	1960-1962
CAMUNAS, Enrique Chico	196/536	Pollock Rip, Relief	1950-1952	SHUTTS, George E.	112/534	Nantucket	1954-1956
CARLUCCI, Louis John	114/536	Pollock Rip	1962-1964	SINOPOLI, John	114/536	Pollock Rip	1962-1964
CARROLL, Richard E.	196/536	Umatilla	1969-1970	SOAPER, R.C.	111/533	Portland	1953
CARTER, Jerry W.	604	Columbia	1961-1963	SOYK, Otto W.	118/539	Cornfield Point	1941
	604	Columbia	1972-1974	SMITH, Richard L.	612	San Francisco	1957-1959
	605	Blunts Reef / Relief	1974-1975	STASTNY, Richard J. "Dick"	88/513	Umatilla Reef	1945-1946
CODY, Joseph A.	116/536	Defiance	1966-1967	STEPNICK, Daniel R. "Dan"	86/511	Hens & Chickens	1948-1950
COE, William B.	189	Diamond Shoals	1947-1948	STRAUSS, Larry	118/539	Boston	1965-1968
	107/529	White Quarter	1950-1951	STRODA, Robert J.	73/503	Swiftpart	1954-1955
	84/509	Relief (Charleston, SC)	1956-1958	STUART, George H.	109/531	Relief (St. Johns / Savannah)	1952
COLETTI, Richard F.	101/524	Stonehorse	1954	SULLIVAN, Orville O.	604	Columbia	1952-1955
COSMO, Dennis M.	613	Relief (MA)	1970-1972		83/508	Relief (West Coast)	1956-1958
	189	Boston	1973	TAYLOR, James L. "Jim"	112/534	Nantucket	1954-1955
CROCKER, Richard	189	Boston	1973-1974	THIBAUT, Robert, Y.	87/512	Scotland	1962
DANIELL, Bobby	95/519	Relief (4th District)	1961-1964	THOMSON, H. Gordon	613	Ambrose	1952-1953

NAME	Hull #	Ship Name	Served	NAME	Hull #	Ship Name	Served
DASCH, Rick	118/539	Boston	1955-1956	TIMS, Ray E.	100/523	San Francisco	1969
DASH, Roy E.	169	Diamond Shoals	1949-1950	Van HOUTEN, Adrian W.	196	Pollock Rip / Nantucket	1957-1958
DeFRANCESCO, John M.	523	Nantucket	1973-1974	WALES, Howard E.	118/539	Cross Rip	1961-1962
	613	Relief (MA)	1974		102/525	Boston	1962
	612	Nantucket	1974-1975	WALKLEY, Edward P.	112/534	Nantucket	1948-1950
DeROSIA, Leon	103/526	Humb	1960-1964	WAMPLER, John G.	605	Relief (West Coast)	1974-1975
DICKERSON, Lionel	114/536	Relief (1st District)	1956-1957	WARD, Donald H.	116/538	Cape Cod / Falm Ship	1944-1945
DIETERICH, Leonard	604	Columbia	1955-1957	WASHBURN, Harold G.	115/537	Fryer Pan	1945-1946
D'URBANO, Raymond F.	70/505	Relief (NY)	1955-1959	WEBBER, Bernard C.	112/534	Nantucket/Relief	1958-1960
DREW, Selby	100/523	Blunt Reef	1948-1949		102/525	Cross Rip	1963
	112/534	Switmore	1957	WHALEY, Curtis	604	Columbia	1978-1979
EHRMAN, Peter L.	114/536	Relief	1955-1958	WILLS, Patrick L.	604	Columbia	1969-1970
EVANS, K. Morgan		8 Lightships (Radio Beacons)	1948-1949	WOOD, Peter J.	65/510	Boston	1959-1961
FASE, David	605	Bunks Reef	1963-1964	WYCKOFF, James B. "Jim"	605	Relief (West Coast)	1969-1971
FLOYD, Joseph	91/515	Relief (8th District)	1954-1956	YOUNG, Donald W.	605	Reef (West Coast)	1971-1972
FOSTER, Wesley	107/529	Winter Quarter	1950-1951		604	Columbia	1979
GAHARA, William J.	86/511	Buzzards Bay	1952-1954	ZENONE, Michael "Zoomer"	605	Relief (West Coast)	1976-1977
GARRAN, John W.	112/534	Nantucket	1963-1964	ZOLLARS, Ralph D.	94/518	Savannah	1945
GIGLIOTTI, Jack	114/536	Relief (MA)	1954-1956		94/509	St. John	1946
GODFREY, Frank	118/539	Boston	1963-1964				
GREEN, Vernon L.	92/516	Relief (Seattle)	1949-1950				
GUBITOSI, Robert J.	112/534	Nantucket	1957-1961				
GUYETTE, Floyd E.	118/539	Cross Rip	1961-1962				
HANCOCK, Michael G.	91/515	Relief (8th District)	1958-1960	<b>LSA MEMBERS Current in their 2006 Dues</b>			
HASS, Thomas J.	613	Relief (MA)	1970	<b>NAME Other C.G., LS Interest and Assn., Family, Friend</b>			
HILL, Glenn A.	605	Bunks Reef	1966-1968	BENNETT, Chris	Interest in Lightships		
HOLLOWAY, Roland	109/531	New Orleans	1964-1966	BERNHEISEL, David	VP - Overfalls Maritime Museum		
HOLMES, Lowell D.	110/532	EXAM, Woods Hole, MA	1944-1945	BOLTON, Joanne	wife of Charles		
HOLMES, William H.	114/536	Pollock Rip	1960-1963	BUNCH, James C.	Interest in Lightships		
HOLT, Howard L.	79/508	Barnegat	1953-1954	BYRNES, Friedel	wife of Bernie		
HUGHES, John, Rev.	109/531	Savannah	1962-1964	DEVINE, Michael E.	other C.G. assignments		
IRWIN, Edward R.	112/534	Nantucket	1951-1954	DRONICK, Deborah J.	Interest in Lightships		
JACOBS, George	605	Relief (West Coast)	1970-1972	ECKERT-PETERSON, U.	wife of Scott (Roller)		
JEFFERIES II, Norman	79/506	Barnegat	1953-1954	FLOCA, Brian K.	Author of childrens book about Lightships		
JENNINGS, Charles W.	79/506	Barnegat	1954-1955	GRYDER, Rick	Interest in Lightships		
JOHNSON, James D.	112/534	Relief/Nantucket	1958-1960	GUBITOSI, Robert Jr.	Interest in Lightships, son of Bob		
KANE, James R.	78/505	Relief (NY)	1946-1948	GUBITOSI, Chris.	Interest in Lightships, son of Bob		
KASSICK, Edward T.	613	Relief (Boston); Nantucket	1968-1969	HAINES, Mary	father was in USLHS 1929		
KENT, Robert B.	118/539	Cowhead Point	1954-1958	HARTLE, Patricia E.	BOD - North West Seaport Museum		
KILLMEYER, Albert E.	613	Ambrose	1958-1960	HUFF, Dale H.	LCDR USCG (Ret) (80) brother in law Gene Ringo		
	35/519	Relief (4th District)	1962-1964	HUFF, Avrah H.	ADC USCG (Ret) (96) brother in law Gene Ringo		
KILROY, Dick	102/529	Winter Quarter	1957-1958	HUMES, Bob	Interest in Lightships		
KRIDER, John A.	189	Diamond Shoals	1959-1960	KIRKLIN, Wayne	Interest in Lightships		
	108/530	Elve Fathom	1965-1969	KRIDER, Isabel	wife of John		
KURIC, Ken	112/534	Nantucket	1973-1974	MacLAUGHLIN, Robie A.	Interest in Lightships		
LALIK, Peter S.	79/506	Barnegat	1964-1966	MELLOTT, Eugene	604 Columbia LS Keeper		
LAMBERT, Michael C.	613	Nantucket II	1980-1981	MOLLOY, Patricia	wife of Chris		
LANDON, John T.	101/524	Overfalls	1947-1951	PRANG, Walter H.	87/512 Ambrose LS Care Taker		
LAWSON, James P.	84/509	St. Johns	1951-1953	RADLOFF, Gerald	Interest in Lightships		
LEE, Robert E.	115/537	Fryer Pan	1962-1963	RINGO, Barbara, G.	wife of Gene		
LEMOINE, Norman E.	613	Nantucket II	1978-1980	ROBERTS, Seamond P.	Interest in Lightships		
LLOYD, Anthony D.	196	Uranilla	1962-1964	RYAN, Susan	wife of Larry		
MADURA, Renaldo W.	612	San Francisco	1957-1959	SATTERWAITE, Norman	Interest in Lightships		
MANSSELL, Stanley, T. Sr.	108/530	Five Fathom	1953-1955	SCHROT, James F.	Interest in Lightships		
MARLEY, Benjamin	105/527	Diamond Shoals (Sun/Deck)	1944	TAMALONIS, Anne Marie	Widow of the late Joe		
	107/529	Winter Quarter	1944-1945	TURICH, James T.	father was a LS Sailor		
MARX, Peter	108/530	Five Fathom	1955-1956	Van HOUTEN, Sharon	wife of Adrian		
MATLOCK, Dale	612	San Francisco	1960-1962	WALKER, James A.	Interest in Lightships		
	605	Relief (West Coast)	1970-1972	WATSON, Stephen T.	Interest in Lightships		
McCARTHY, J. F. "Jay"	78/505	Relief (NY)	1957-1959	WHALEY, Debra	wife of Curtis		
McCARTHY, Joseph B.	604	Columbia	1950-1953	WIBERG, Jack	Interest in Lightships		
McDEVITT, James E. "Jim"	85/510	Boston	1957-1958				
MELVIN, J. David	115/537	Fryer Pan	1959-1960				
MILNER, James "Jim"	91/515	Relief (8th District)	1957-1958				
MOLLOY, Chris	95/519	Relief (4th District)	1960				

## Secretaries Report

Rick Bennett



It is my pleasure to report the various legislative matters that have come before The Board of Directors for action since our last General Membership Meeting in Portsmouth, VA. The following decisions were a result of motions being brought before the Board of Directors for a discussion and a vote:

November 19, 2005: A general discussion was held at the request of Larry Ryan, to debate the advantages of printing The Fog Signal in house, rather than through a commercial printing establishment. Realizing we were trading off some professional quality for cost savings and control on the actual mailing list, this was approved by unanimous consent.

December 11, 2005: Request by Larry Ryan for approval of the meeting agenda for 2007 reunion. Approved by unanimous consent.

December 14, 2005: A request by Larry Ryan for approval to finalize a contract with The Best Western Executive Inn, Seattle, WA as our headquarters for our 2007 meeting and reunion. Approved by unanimous consent. ( Contract was signed by Fred Pelger, Treas., Jay McCarthy 1<sup>st</sup> VP, and Larry Ryan, Pres., returned February 7, 2006 )

February 9, 2006: To amend the wording on certain By-laws **for ratification by members:**

Item 1: 6 yes, 2 No, 1 no vote, motion carried

Item 2: To include names of Founding Members, and Past Presidents under Article 1, Section 5 (a) 8 yes, 1 NO, 1 No vote. Motion carried.

March 2006: A motion was made by Larry Ryan to approve the budget for the annual meeting in Seattle, with a registration fee of \$100 per person, a second motion was made to increase the fee to \$125.00, motion was defeated, original motion was passed with 8- yes, 1 No, 1 not voting ( Chris Bennett )

May 25, 2006: Motion by John Hughes to establish a policy in dispersing the Lightship Preservation Funds.

Stipulation added by Fred Pelger that this **be specifically approved by the members.**

Second by Jay McCarthy,

Motion carried with 9-Yes, 0-No, 1 not voting ( Chris Bennett. )

LIFE MAY NOT BE THE PARTY WE HOPED FOR, BUT WHILE WE'RE HERE, WE MIGHT AS  
WELL DANCE

(credited to a Lightship Sailor during a gale )

# A Short Sea Story

December 19, 2005

This is a true sea story about a "Real" Light Ship L.V. #92, a coal burner.

I enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1948 at the age of fourteen and served for 29 plus years.

In 1950-1951 I was assigned to the "Real" Lightship L.V. #92. Roland Miller Sr. was the commanding officer and I was assigned as a seaman.

Light ship #92 was built as a coal burner about 1908. It had two large boilers for making steam, 90 ton coal bunkers and coal ports on both sides and a million cockroaches. The stoking was done by hand, approximately 1 ton a day on station and approximately 1 ton an hour underway at 6-8 knots.

The washing machine was a 10 gallon milk can, salt water, salt water soap and a toilet plunger as the agitator.

The Lightship # 92 was built as a coal burner and remained so until 1951 when she was decommissioned. She was never converted to diesel..

The Lightship #92 was relieved by Lightship # 604, the Columbia River. The #604 has been decommissioned and moored in Astoria, Oregon.

In 1966 as a boot W-0 W-1 I was assigned to Light Ship # 605 Blunts Reef as officer in charge. I made W-2 fourteen months later I was relieved by Roland Miller Jr., son of my C.O. on L.V. #92 sixteen years later.

I believe the Lightship #92 was the last coal burner in the Coast Guard.

There can't be a lot of "Real lightship sailors still around

*Eugene G. Ostlund*  
Eugene G. Ostlund CHBOSN W-4 USCG

# LIGHTSHIP OF THE QUARTER



## Lightship of the Quarter

Lightship #83/Wal 508

Built in Camden, NJ in 1904 for Blunts Reef Station, CA for The USLHSE

At 668 Tons Displacement. She had 4 sisters, LV 78, 79, 80 and 81.

They were all riveted steel hulls at 129' OAL, with a beam of 28'6".

All were coal fired, by hand, to twin boilers powering a single double expansion reciprocating steam engine generating 325 HP and 9 knots.

The two 90 ton coal bunkers were on either side of the boilers, consuming around 1 ton of coal per hour while under way, and 1000 to 1500 pounds a day on station.

While under way, the throttle man also served as oiler until The USLHS as absorbed into the USCG in 1939.

The # 83 sailed as part of a convoy, including a second Lightship the #76/504, in 1905, Convoy Commander was Capt. E. M. Trott.

She arrived on Blunts Reef Station, CA in 1906 where she would serve for the next 23 years. She was assigned to San Francisco Bar from 1929 until 1942, she became an examination vessel until after the war where she was reassigned As San Francisco until 1951 when she became The Relief until retirement in 1960.

The #83 is one of the two oldest surviving Lightships, and the only one still afloat with the original steam plant. Except for being oil fired, replacing coal in early 1940. The coal bunkers were enclosed as fuel oil tanks and equipped with steam driven double acting reciprocating fuel pumps, replacing scoop shovels. The fuel source was referred to originally as "All Fuel", the equivalent of #2 diesel or heating oil today.

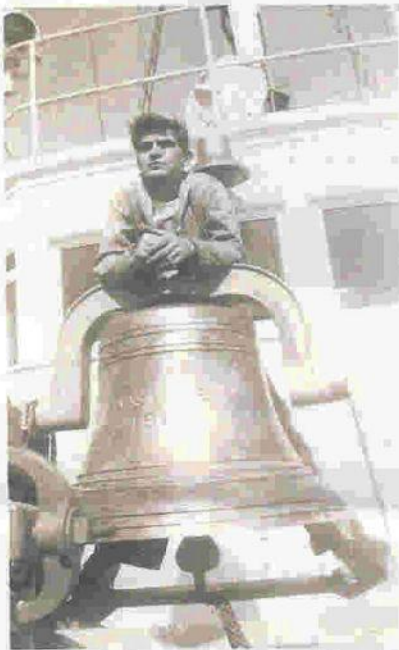
Which made life much easier on the engine room crew and the deck crew due to cleaner conditions.

The #83 is now owned by The NW Seaport, Seattle, WA where she is sharing space with a fleet of historic vessels.

The known Commanding Officers under the USCG were Thomas Curtis, 1935-1941, Ross Anway, 1943, and CWO Lok, 1948-1949.

The #83 is now 101 years old, indeed The Queen of The Lightship Fleet, Well Done Good and Faithful Servant.

# LIGHTSHIP SAILOR OF THE QUARTER



## LIGHTSHIP SAILOR OF THE QUARTER

Joseph B. Ratcliffe, BT3, USCG  
Founding Member, LSA

Joe is pictured here on board the LV#83/WAL508, as San Francisco Lightship, September 1949, age 19 years old. Joe went to boot camp in Mayport, FL, in February 1947, from boot camp direct to The Roger B. Taney for 18 months. He was then transferred to LV#83/WAL 508 serving on The San Francisco Lightship Station in October 1948 and served until October 1949. San Francisco Station is between the Golden Gate Bridge and The Farallon Islands marking the entrance to San Francisco Bay.

Joe came aboard the Lightship as an FN, made Third Class BT and then transferred to the Gresham for 7 months, then to base supply where he finished his 4 year enlistment.

"No other duty compared to The Lightship duty, CWO Lok was a great Skipper, great food, and the 7 days leave was also great"

We want to thank Joe for providing a wonderful set of original photographs for this publication, a great way to help preserve our history.

Joe will be returning to The #83 in Seattle after a 57 year absence, we hope you will come and help welcome him back.

Larry Ryan, Publisher



# VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bernie Byrnes Chairman

I am pleased to report on our successful campaign to win compensation for most that have contacted me on your hearing loss. There are still many, many more of you out there, please contact me and let me help. There are a lot of little items that need to be processed in a very specific manner for you to win, don't try to do it alone. This is what I do for a living. And I have years of experience behind the desk. I have a packet that I will send to get you started. There is no charge for this service.

Please contact me direct: Bernie Byrnes, 32 Sexton Ave, Westwood, MA 02090-2821 or by e-mail

[fridell@galaxy.net](mailto:fridell@galaxy.net)

Additional VA news: The VA has announced plans to open 25 new community based out patient clinics in 17 states. Bessemer, AL, 3 in AZ, Miami-Globe, two in Tuscon, Orange County, CA, Dover, DE, Athens, GA, Canyon County, ID Spirit Lake, IA two in KT, Hazard and Florence, Bemidji, MN Holdredge, NE, three in NC, Franklin, Hamlet and Hickory, Fallon, NV, two in OH, Cambridge and Newark, Hamblen, TN, Conroe, TX, two in VA, Lynchburg and Norfolk and Rice Lake, WI.

## PRESERVING OUR HISTORY, ONE STORY, AND ONE PICTURE AT A TIME

We need your help and contribution in our efforts to preserve our history, both of Lightships and Lightship Sailors history.

As you realize, the featured articles started in the past year, **Lightship of The Quarter**, and **Lightship Sailor (s) of the Quarter** is an attempt to do just that, preserve our history. The way the system works, and this is to help establish some ground rules so everyone understands our goals:

The Publisher of The Fog Signal chooses the Lightship of the Quarter based on request or other pertinent facts of the time, then letters are prepared to all known crew members that we have of record, inviting them to provide us a story and pictures of their time on-board. If you have photographs of the ship, this is also requested, but we also want you to be included, and if you have a current picture of yourself, please include that also.

We really need all of the details possible, dates, stations, commanding officers, duties and any other information that does not jeopardize your marriage. In the case of multiple replies, all of the information possible will be posted, and retained in our files. Any original photographs will be returned on request. Should you choose to make copies, The LSA will compensate you for that expense.

Any photograph, story or article you would like to donate, please note that it will become the property of The LSA, not an individual. Any and all items would be appreciated and will be respected.

The search continues for a permanent home for The LSA, which must include a museum type setting. Secure, climate controlled and located in an area that would be somewhat associated with Lightships.

The location must be staffed and our display must be considered permanent, and the tough part is the cost, which by the nature of our organization, it must be minimal,



# GENERAL QUARTERS

## Chiefs Corner

### Miscellaneous and important information:

Guest Speakers and presenters at our reunion will include Linda McCune with a new video presentation produced in the early '60's featuring the Lightship #88, she will have available for purchase films made by her late husband on Columbia River Bar in addition the 88 on Swiftsure Station.

Another Lightship is in danger of being lost, The 536 ( New Bedford ) rolled over after taking in water thru the aft wardroom head. As this is an ongoing story and developing daily as this edition is being printed, this is only a summary to this date. The City has long treated the 536 as a huge signboard moored in the harbor. Over the past several years the City has received many offers to both protect the Lightship and to enhance the City of New Bedford's image, all offers have been refused. No one was officially allowed on board, until after she rolled over. Then all help was requested, until she was righted and afloat. In the process of showing access to the marine contractor, pictures were taken of the interior showing the interior to have been stripped, including items such as the ward room table. This is indeed a sad development that is still being played out. Additional information is available, contact Larry Ryan @ [Lryan8@aol.com](mailto:Lryan8@aol.com)

### Nominations Now open

All positions for the Executive board including Directors positions are up for election at our 2006 reunion in Seattle ,WA

.Nominations are now being accepted. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the general business meeting. All nominees will be allowed two ( 2 ) minutes to introduce themselves.

All members, not limited to Lightship Sailor veterans, in good standing can nominate another member in good standing to the nominations committee in writing or by e-mail. The nominee must write or e-mail the committee indicating their intentions to accept the position and their reasons for wanting the position. Some background on the nominee is also requested.

All nominations should be sent to U.S.C.G. Lightship Sailors Nominating Committee at [lv112gubbie@earthlink.net](mailto:lv112gubbie@earthlink.net) or by mail to Bob Gubitosi 122 Weir Point Drive Manteo, N.C. 27954

### 10th MCPOCG Named

Master Chief Boatswain's Mate Charles "Skip" Bowen became the 10th master chief of the Coast Guard , relieving Master Chief Quartermaster Frank Welch, who retired after 26 years in the service. Bowen has 28 years experience in the service. He arrives after serving as O-in-C Coast Guard Station Marathon, FL.

The Master Chief has held numerous commands, including O-in-C at Station New Haven, CN, Station Sand Key, FL, the 82 foot patrol boat Point Turner, and the 87 foot patrol boat Hammerhead. In addition he has worked as command master chief of the services 7th District.

The Master Chief is well acquainted with his new boss, Commandant Adm. Thad Allen, having served together on three different times in their careers. Our best regards to both.

This information provided by former MCPOCG Vince Patton.