



THE FOG SIGNAL



I WILL NOT ABANDON YOU

LIGHTSHIP NOT IN
CORRECT POSITION

Volume 4 Issue 18 Newsletter of The U.S. Coast Guard Lightship Sailors Association Fall 2007

Writings of The President

Larry Ryan

PRESIDENT

- Larry Ryan

1st VICE PRESIDENT

- Jay McCarthy

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

- Bob Gubitosi

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- Roy Dash

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- Fred A. Pelger

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- Bernie Byrnes

- Larry Strauss

- Peter Marx

MEMBERSHIP

- Jay McCarthy

VETERAN AFFAIRS:

- Bernie Byrnes

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Bob Gubitosi

Arts and Graphics

- Dennis Cosmo, Past Pres.

Chaplain

- Rev. John Hughes

To My Brother Lightship Sailors, Members and Friends,

As a result of the fantastic support in Lewes, I need to mention our appreciation of all the wives (and significant others) and their contributions. In the future, please assume they are included under "Lightship Sailors" salutation.

I believe from what I have heard, our Reunion and Business Meeting of 2007 would have to be placed in a class all by it's self. While no meeting is perfect when we are depending on outsiders to participate, particularly as speakers, we had a plan 'B' in place, and it worked very well. The trip "Back to Boot camp" was an event we were all anticipating, and it was enjoyable. The Town of Cape May has not changed all that much, but Cape May Receiving Center sure has. If you missed the trip, you will find a picture of the CO's house, which is about all most of us remembered, except the water tower. We were hosted on the base by two members of the CG Auxiliary and toured both the an 87' and a 210. Every member of Congress should be mandated to take a tour and see what these fine young people are about, the young Coasties are just as impressive as their equipment.

The General Membership voted to meet next year out on Cape Cod. The details have not been completed, but probably in Hyannis, which is considered as "one of the seven villages of Barnstable".

A presentation was made to the General Membership regarding our future **USCG Lightship Sailors Museum**, a vote was taken to accept an invitation from The CG Heritage Museum in Barnstable, MA to occupy space in their museum. Again we have some loose ends to wrap up, on both sides, before we can make the final commitment. We are, however, extremely hopeful we can have a dedication of the museum during our reunion in 2008. This effort has been a joint endeavor by many people, especially Bill Collette and Doug Bingham, true gentlemen both.

We will leave you another reminder to start getting your pictures, memorabilia and artifacts together as we have every reason to believe this coming spring will be very busy in setting up our museum displays. The sooner we have them on hand, the better to tell our story to future generations. We truly have a once in a lifetime opportunity to establish a historical record of a by gone era. It is without a doubt an awesome and humbling task. And we must to it right!!!!

Please do not hesitate to contact any of your Board Members, including myself, with you comments and suggestions.(My contact information is on the cover sheet.)

I hope you enjoy the pictures from the reunion, most provided by courtesy of your official photographer, Pete Marx.

Keep a Good Light,

Larry

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A Message About Membership

Jay McCarthy Chairman

A Message from Membership

To all hands,

Having just completed our 2007 reunion in Lewes, DE. my feelings are that this was by far, the best reunion ever in both attendance and content. The trip back to Cape May was great! As you browse through the "Fog Signal" you will be treated to numerous photos and stories regarding our reunion. I won't go into any further details, as you will see them elsewhere in this edition.

What I will mention is this. I am most happy to report that the NEW Life Membership Level we started after Seattle, now has (12) twelve members, that have paid the \$300.00 once in a lifetime, Life Member Dues. The success of this level of Membership signifies the commitment and confidence our members feel for the continued success and growth of the organization. Our Full Membership level dues remains the same at \$25.00 each.

Plans are underway for our "Fourth Annual Dues Reminder Notices" to be mailed out in late December or early January. Dues renewal is a very intricate part of keeping this organization alive and functioning. Expenses (just like at home) keep increasing, and we need everyone to do their part. Remember, from each \$25.00 Dues payment made, \$5.00 is deducted and dedicated to Lightship and Lightship History Preservation. As we all know, *the Mission statement for the Lightship Sailors Association, Inc. is to preserve Lightship History and Lightships.* Already, 54 Members have paid their 2008 Membership Dues early. In the "Annual Dues Renewal Notice", I will list the names of those that have prepaid their 2008 dues; this will help to confirm to those members, that they don't have to send in another dues payment. Sometimes in our busy schedules, we forget to note that we already paid our dues. Of course we always accept donations.

Due to space constraints, in order to get as many reunion pictures as possible into this issue. We will not post a 2008 Annual Dues Renewal Form in this issue.

Should you wish a Membership Application form, please either wait for the Annual Renewal Notice, or contact me below, and I'll be most happy to send you one;

Fair Winds and Following Seas,

E-mail: jfment@bellsouth.net

OR Via US Mail:

Jay McCarthy

1st. VP & Membership Director

1-561-495-1761

Jay McCarthy
15276 Lake Wisteria

Road

Delray Beach, FL

33484-4651





WINE AND CHEESE SOCIAL
 Kathleen Gubitosi, Roy Dash and Norm LeMoine
 BELOW
 Ferry Boat Ride to Cape May



The two 'Barbs'
 Barbara Marx-Barbara McCarthy
 BELOW
 Roland and Claire Holloway



BELOW
 Commanding Officer Residence
 BOTTOM PAGE 2
 Registration Desk, Rexina Pelger, CarolStrauss



BELOW
 Adrian and Sharon VanHouten



The Fog Signal

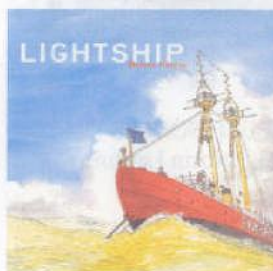
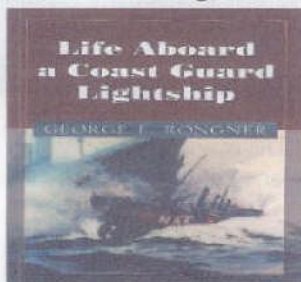




The Library Corner by Jay McCarthy with Pete Marx

What a great Reunion was had by all. As most know, the LSA was privileged to be able to provide to you at the Reunion, the BOOKS recently published by 2 (two) of our USCG Lightship Sailor Association Members.

"Life Aboard a Coast Guard Lightship" by George E. Rongner CWO-4 USCG (Ret), Infinity Publishing. George shares his memories while he served as CO of Buzzards Bay Lightship, LV 86 / WAL 511, 1955 - 1957. George takes us on a chapter by chapter trip through the ship during these times. He brings back memories of long ago, with tales of Fog, violent storms, periods of boredom and when we were young, and this was our life.



"LIGHTSHIP" by Brian Floca, Simon & Schuster. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SIKFFA1 ws> Brian wrote and illustrated this wonderful book for young readers. Brian used AMBROSE LV-87 / WAL-512 (some of us remember her as "SCOTLAND" off Sandy Hook, NJ) moored at the South Street Seaport Museum in NYC as his model. Brian's distribution of this book opens a whole new generation(s) to learn about and appreciate the world of Lightships. This book is a "MUST" for your grandchildren, for it shows where and how granddad served in the US Coast Guard. It is presented in an understandable format for youngsters of ages 4 through 7.

Both books would be wonderful gifts for this Christmas / Holiday season.

Both George and Brian authorized the LSA to sell copies of their books at the Reunion, and are donating ALL profits from "LSA Sales" of their book(s), to the LSA Treasury.

For those members unable to join us at our most recent Reunion, and are interested in purchasing these books. We have a very limited number of book(s) remaining in stock and, available for purchase by mail. All the remaining stock on hand will have "Signed Cards by George", and "signed copies by Brian". The price for shipping and handling is \$5.00. Please use the form below to place your mail order:

BOOK:	Price per	S.& H.	# ordered	Total this item
Life Aboard A Coast Guard Lightship by George E. Rongner	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00		\$
LIGHTSHIP by Brian Floca	\$ 17.00	\$ 5.00		\$
<i>Your Name & Address:</i>			Order Total	\$
			Contact #	

Please enclose this form with your check or money order, made out to the:

"USCG LIGHTSHIP SAILORS ASSOCIATION, Inc."

Please mail to: J. F. "Jay" McCarthy
LSA - 1st. VP & Membership Director
15276 Lake Wisteria Road



Roy Dash and Fred Pelger "Waiting their turn"?



Anne Marie Tamalonis and daughter Rachel

Rick and Deb Dasch (Newly Weds)

Peter Marx-Photographer



John and Muriel Biermass
(with Barbara McCarthy on left)
Note the center piece

Howard and Karin Wales
(New Life Member in Lewes)





Richard (Dick) & Barbara Nelson



Jay and Barbara McCarthy



The pictures above and below of our annual ceremony recognizing and remembering our Lightship Sailor Brothers lost in the line of duty as well as those that have Crossed Over the Bar since our last gathering. Our Chaplain officiates at this Ceremony assisted by Jay McCarthy, Membership Director. Adrian and Sharon VanHouten complements the ceremony With a moving musical tribute, As each name is called, a bell is sounded by Zac Ryan. Closed by a sounding of taps provided by Tim Wygant, of Bugles Across America.





Dennis and Paula Cosmo and Norm LeMoine



Doug Bingham, Curator of The CG Heritage Museum
Being recognized with an "Appreciation Award"
For his contributions in preserving CG History

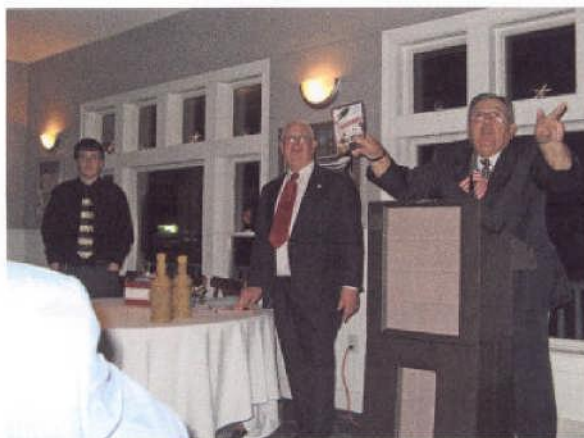


Mary Bernheisel, OMMF (publisher of their newsletter)
Fritz Heipertz behind Mary, Elinor Hughes, Peter Lalik
Larry Strauss and Jay McCarthy selling raffle tickets
For a gold Lightship lapel Pin



Charlie Bolton receiving the raffle prize of a solid
gold Lightship lapel pin with a ruby and a diamond
The donated pin has a value of \$399.00.
Charlie won it, I bet Joanne gets to wear it

Our Asst. Chaplain and Auctioneer in action
Assisted by our 'runner' Zac Ryan, assisting
Fred Pelger, Treasurer not shown here



A grand time was had by all, a lot of laughs, and still in
keeping within our Mission. Publishers apology for mistakes
and or omissions.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

Adrian and Sharon conducted a "Mini Chapel" service as they
did in Seattle. The attendance more than doubled in 2007.
As a result, we plan on continuing this tradition in the future.
All are encouraged to consider attending.

May God Continue to Bless America



VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bernie Byrnes Chairman

MORE ON FILING A CLAIM FOR VA BENEFITS

I have already gone over hearing loss and tinnitus claims, here are a few more medical conditions that do effect some of our members:

If you went to sick call or the hospital while on active duty, list it when you file, the worst thing that can happen is that the

VA will deny your claim for lack of evidence. There are many medical problems that can be related to active duty even though some times years pass before they appear.

A few examples are:

Asbestosis, most often this condition will not appear until some times twenty or more years. You have to show that you were exposed, for any below deck ratings this is of course easier, but we all know that especially when a ship goes into dry dock there is asbestos dust through out the ship.

M.S., the symptoms have to be within seven years of your discharge, but if you can prove with doctors statements and/or medical records, then you can not be denied. An example would be a history of frequent head aches, etc.

Remember, the laws concerning disabilities are constantly changing; an example is Agent Orange causing diabetes type II, lung cancer, etc.

LIMITED INCOME:

If you have health and/or financial problems and are just getting by on a limited income, you can file for a non-service pension, (this also applies to widows). There are a lot of deductions that can be applied such as medical expenses, etc.

It is best to go through a Service Representative as they have to be certified yearly and will act in your best interest.

“The VA is not a charity”, these benefits are what you have earned and deserve if they apply to you.

I will list a couple of web sites that can be invaluable in filing:

http://www.dav.org/directories/nas_nso_tso_directory.xls

For a D.A.V. Service Officer listing <http://www.dav.org>

If you have a problem and need some help, please contact me

@ emjobyrnes@verizon.com or mail 32 Sexton Ave Westwood MA 02090

Regards to my fellow veterans: *Bernie Byrnes*

“The four cornerstones of character on which...this nation was built are: initiative, imagination, individuality and independence.” *Eddie Rickenbacker*

GENERAL QUARTERS

Chiefs Corner

A Little Trivia ?

When was the last time the US Coast Guard hung anyone?

Was it in the 1700's, 1800's or 1900's?

How about on August 17, 1928 at 06:04am;

Horace Alderman was "hung" at the US Coast Guard Station at what is now known as the Bahia Mar Marina in Ft. Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida. Alderman, a rum runner during Prohibition days in the 1920's, was smuggling a boatload of booze into Florida from the Bahamas when he was intercepted by a Coast Guard Cutter. In the ensuing shootout he killed three men. A Federal judge sentenced the Gulf Stream Pirate to death by hanging in the County seat of the County he re-entered on his return to the United States. Broward County had no idea about how to hang a murder, so the unhappy task was palmed off on the Coast Guard.

Submitted by Jay McCarthy... Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel, August 30, 1999.

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### "A Big Thank You" To The LSA Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary did a fantastic job in Lewes. The baked goods by Kathy Gubitosi and Betty Gill were a real hit with everyone. The Wine and Cheese Social was the best yet and the center pieces for the banquet finished off a great reunion.

And a special "Thank You" to all those contributing time and items for our annual auction.

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LIFE MEMBER ROSTER

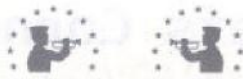
We now have a total of 12 PAID LIFE MEMBERS, listed in the order the \$300 dues received:

Richard Rainville, Jerome Pletnick, Gerard Coursey, Gary Scott, George Coleman
William Quiqley, Richard Jennings, Howard Wales, Bill Collette, Larry Ryan, Curtis Whaley, Debra Whaley

***** A VERY SPECIAL REQUEST *****

When making out your Christmas Cards this year, please include a card to the following:

**A recovering American Soldier
C/O Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Ave., NW**



Updated: 10-28-07

CROSSED OVER THE BAR 2007

<u>Lightship Sailor Veteran</u>	<u>Crossed Over</u>	<u>LSA Notified</u>
John Louis Carlucci Pollock Rip 114/536 1962-1964	April 24, 2006	1-19-2007
Leon DeRosia Lake Huron WAL 103/526 1962	June 20, 2006	3-11-2007
Harry C. Robidoux Delaware LV-116/538 1963-'65	July 4, 2006	3-14-07
Ken Black Relief LV114/536 1956-'57	January 30, 2007	1-30-07
John O. 'Ollie' Woodworth Columbia WAL 604 1951	February 24 2007	3-7-2007
David A. Fase Blunts Reef WAL 605 1964-'65	2007	3-12-2007
James "Jim" Kane Relief LV-78/505 1946-1948	2007	3-15-2007
Harold G. Washburn Frying Pan LV-115/WAL 537 1945-1946	July 3, 2007	8-30-2007
George Muelhbauer Hens & Chickens LV86/WAL 511 1948-1950	unknown	10-28-2007
John Reid Hens & Chickens LV86/WAL 511 1948-1950	unknown	10-28-2007

**YOU ARE RELIEVED OF THE WATCH,
REST IN PEACE**



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

