



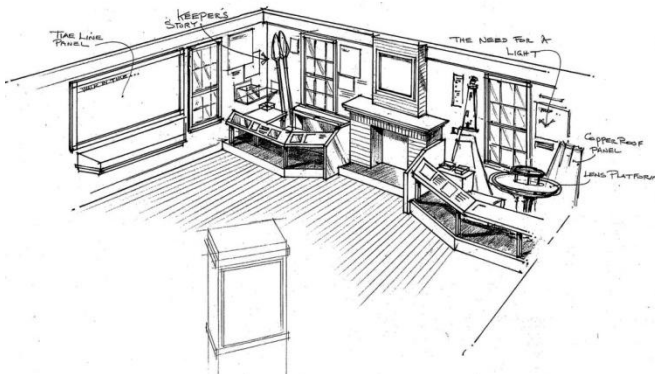
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Fall 2010

Design of Museum Exhibits Underway

With interior work on the Lighthouse Keeper's House nearing completion, attention is turning toward design of the exhibits that will tell the story of the Cape St. George Light in the Keeper's House Museum. The first floor of the building, which will house museum space on the west side and a gift shop on the east side, will be the first area to be completed. The target opening date is early March, if funds permit.

The first floor museum space will include a welcome kiosk with a back side display, as well as exhibits focusing on the history of the lighthouse, the story of the lighthouse keepers, a time line of significant lighthouse events, and audio-visual access to lighthouse videos.



First floor museum space, facing west, with welcome kiosk in foreground.

The lighthouse history display will include significant pieces salvaged from the 1852 lighthouse, including the iron lens pedestal, sections of the copper roof, and pieces of the original soapstone deck, lantern room glass, and tower bricks. Displays

will be set on raised wooden platforms, with "reader rails" that will provide both information and protection of the exhibits.

The Keeper's display will highlight life at the Lighthouse with photos and artifacts contributed by descendants of keepers and other local patrons. Prominently featured will be the sewing machine used by Mrs. W.A. Roberts Jr. to make clothing for the family when her husband, known as Pete, was Keeper from 1930 to 1938. The Roberts family, headed by Bill Roberts who is both a son and grandson of keepers at Cape St. George, has also donated sister Elizabeth's childhood rocking chair, binoculars, uniform pins and buttons, and a collection of tools from his father's career as a lighthouse keeper.

The time line, which will anchor the story of the Cape St. George Light into national and world events of the time, was researched by SGLA member Penny Angel. Penny, who devoted much time to volunteer work for the lighthouse, passed away on September 20 (please see tribute in this newsletter).

The multimedia exhibit will include news clips of the collapse of the lighthouse, documentary segments produced to highlight the reconstruction effort, and planned oral histories from descendants of lighthouse keepers.

The second floor museum room, which will be completed when Phase 2 funding becomes available, will focus on the reconstruction efforts and the people who helped rebuild the historic lighthouse.

Keeper's Uniform Donated to Museum!

The Lighthouse Museum has received the



Stan in uniform.

extraordinary gift of a Lighthouse Keeper's uniform to display in the museum. While the uniform was never worn by one of the Keepers who worked at Cape St. George, it belonged to someone equally special to the Cape St. George Light.

Stan Farnham, who recently retired as President of the Florida Lighthouse Association, graciously donated the custom-made uniform that he wore when he presided

at FLA meetings or attended events and meetings where he represented Florida's 30 remaining lighthouses.

The uniform is a replica of the navy blue dress uniform worn by members of the United States Lighthouse Service, complete with lighthouse insignias and buttons.

We are privileged to be entrusted with this special gift, and sincerely thank Stan and Mary Farnham for their generosity and their continuing support of the Cape St. George Light.

Lighthouse Loses A Great Friend and Volunteer

The Cape St. George Light lost one of its most dedicated volunteers when SGLA member Penny Angel passed away on September 20, 2010.

Penny, a longtime lighthouse enthusiast, joined the St. George Lighthouse Association in November of 2005, just weeks after the historic lighthouse collapsed. We were thrilled to have her support at a time when many people were questioning the wisdom of an attempt to rebuild the lighthouse.

When SGLA made the decision to clean mortar off the salvaged bricks so that they could be used in the reconstruction, Penny was one of the first to sign up. Of the 48 days that volunteers spent cleaning bricks over a 16-month period, Penny only missed five days of the hot and dirty effort. The 58 people who participated in this labor of love averaged about 30 hours of work each. Penny logged an amazing 178.5 hours all by herself! She contributed more than 10 per cent of the 1,763 total hours that it took to clean more than 22,000 bricks.



Penny cleaning lighthouse bricks.

As a retired teacher and education administrator, Penny's love of learning led her to dedicate countless additional hours to researching the history of the Cape St. George Light. Through her efforts, a book of information about lighthouses in general and our lighthouse in particular was developed for the use of lighthouse and museum volunteers. Her research also contributed to the creation of three historical "story boards" recently installed in the lighthouse, and on each she is acknowledged as "Dr. Penny Angel, Volunteer Historian for the Cape St. George Light." Sadly, she did not live to see the finished product.

Penny lost a long battle with liver disease at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville on September 20. But days before she passed away, she was still helping to proofread the lighthouse story boards and assemble information for displays in the new museum.

Knowing her love for the lighthouse, Penny's family has requested that memorial contributions be made to the St. George Lighthouse Association, 201 Bradford Street, St. George Island, Florida 32328. SGLA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, and contributions are tax-deductible. Penny's family will be notified of all gifts made in her memory. As plans for the new Keeper's House Museum progress over the next few weeks, we will determine how to best use the donations received in Penny's honor. What better tribute to a remarkable woman who loved our lighthouse than to honor her in the lighthouse and the museum that she helped to build!

Volunteers Spruce Up Lighthouse Park

Nothing is more beautiful than a perfect October day in St. George Lighthouse Park. Hopefully SGLA volunteers shared that sentiment as they worked to spread 100+ bales of pine straw throughout the landscaped beds in the park on October 14 – which was, in fact, a perfect October day!



As pictured in the above photo, Terry Kemp, Marty Ray, Newt Colston, Elaine Rosenthal, Stanley Colvin, Jim Kemp, Ann Giknis, Mason Bean, Don Grinenko, and Dany Ray all pitched in to get the job done in record time of less than two hours. These energetic volunteers worked so fast that they finished before SGLA could provide lunch. Worse than that, they were long gone before Dee Grinenko could treat them to freshly baked Dump Cake (everybody's favorite!).

Many thanks to these volunteers and to Commissioner Pinki Jackel for working with the Franklin County Parks & Recreation Department to get the pine straw delivered, and to Director Van Johnson, Fonda Davis, and Nikki Millender of Parks & Rec who are always willing to help keep Lighthouse Park looking good.

Now the park looks great, and all the plants are snuggled in with their winter mulch. Maybe this will guarantee that this winter will be warmer than the frigid days of last winter!

LIGHTHOUSE KITTY

Imagine the surprise of SGLA VP Jim Kemp when he opened the pump house in Lighthouse Park one day in July and found a litter of six newborn kittens nestled in the sand with Mama Kitty. The babies were tiny, with eyes still closed – but when we next checked on them, they were gone!

But a day later, all six were back. A day later again, and only two remained. We expect that Mama got tired of hauling her babies around, and took four to a new home, never to return to the pump house again.

Which left us with an interesting dilemma, since the kittens were too little to eat anything except formula from an eyedropper. Enter SGLA member and good samaritan Ada Long, who agreed to take the two little ones home and care for them until they were old enough to be accepted by the Humane Society. One was black, and one was buff-colored – and they were cute tiny little things. Karen at the Eastpoint shelter warned that the odds of them surviving without their mother were slim, and unfortunately, the little buff kitty proved her correct.

But Inky, as Ada named the black kitty, was a different story. Inky ate and grew and learned to play with Ada and Dail's three other indoor cats. In fact, Inky is still a part of their family, and doing quite well. Ada says that she is "a bundle of energy who has gotten beyond the biting and scratching stage, about which I'm mightily pleased. She has become the Princess of the Household."

So the Cape St. George Light had a lighthouse cat, if only for a few days. But we will always remember Inky as the "lighthouse kitty!"



Stan Farnham Receives SGLA's Shining Light Award

The St. George Lighthouse Association's Shining Light Award was presented to retiring Florida Lighthouse Association President Stan Farnham at the FLA Board of Directors meeting in Pensacola on October 1. Presenting the award on behalf of the St. George Lighthouse Association were President Dennis Barnell and Secretary Terry Kemp.



Terry Kemp and Dennis Barnell with Stan Farnham.

During his five years as President of FLA, Stan has been tireless in his support of the reconstruction of the Cape St. George Light. Once declared the "most endangered lighthouse in Florida" by the FLA, the Cape St. George Light received both financial and moral support from the FLA under Stan's leadership.

The Shining Light Award honored Stan for his "enthusiastic support of the Cape St. George Light."

Stan is leaving the presidency of FLA to spend more time with his family and to devote time to his interests of writing and travel. His leadership will be sorely missed. "It seemed like you could email Stan any time of the day or night and receive a reply within minutes," Terry said; "He was always ready to help our lighthouses."

Romance is in the Air (Literally!)

Summer is a time for romance, and what better spot for a romantic wedding than the Cape St. George Light! We know of three couples who have recently wed at or in the lighthouse.

Patsy Densmore and Chet Anderson were married in the lantern room of the lighthouse on July 20, and now reside in Tallapoosa, Georgia. Patsy, who lived in Carrabelle for several years, said that she had always wanted to be married at the top of the lighthouse. With former SGLA board member Ed Tiley officiating, they were the first couple to be married in the lantern room. They have since commemorated their special day with several pavers in Lighthouse Park. Thank you, Patsy and Chet.



Erin Bailey and Fred Babb were married in front of the historic lighthouse on Saturday, August 14. Erin,

from Apalachicola, and Fred, from Eastpoint, exchanged vows in a lovely arbor decorated with flowers and set in front of the lighthouse door. Erin is the daughter of Clay Bailey and Gayle Richards of Apalachicola, and Fred is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Babb III of Eastpoint.



Most recently, Julie and Terry Dewitt of Panama City exchanged vows at the top of the Light on Sunday, October 3. Lisle Millard, serving as Lighthouse Keeper that day, escorted the couple to the lantern room and served as a witness to the ceremony. According to Lisle, the ceremony was absolutely beautiful and was made all the more special by the surprise arrival of Julie's brother from California.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to all the couples whose new lives together began at the Cape St. George Light!

SGLA SALUTES OUR LIFETIME PATRONS!

The St. George Lighthouse Association is fortunate to have a number of Lifetime Patrons in our membership ranks. Lifetime Patrons currently number 41, down from 42 with the passing of beloved member Harold Byrd several years ago. A Lifetime Patron membership costs \$500, and entitles the member and all of his or her family to climb the lighthouse at no cost during the member's lifetime. Friends who accompany the member to the lighthouse may also climb at no charge. We thank all of our Lifetime Patrons, listed below.

Rick Alexander	Shirley Pace
Rick & Sharon Anderson	Andrea & Jim Padgett
Dennis Barnell	Harry & Jean Pettit
Alice Collins	Bill & Karen Powers
Flip & Kathy Froelich	Don & Glynda Ratliff
Clarence & Virginia Gissendanner	Chuck & Linda Rawlins
Johnny Guy	Martin & Joyce Reed
Wayne Hanson	Bill & Verner Roberts
Jack & Joanne Harmon	Eric Sharp
Frank & Sally Haynie	Judy Shultz
Bob & Mary Jean Heide	James Sineath
Walter & Pauline Hoch	Benson & Betty Ann Skelton
Clint & Alane Kadel	St. Augustine Lighthouse & Museum
Jim & Terry Kemp	Donna Stafford
Angelia & Tasso Knight	Glenn Swigart
Ada Long	Tampa Bay Harbour Lights Club
Jim & Anneli Magee	Mark Vail
Eric & Susan Martin	Rex & Cindy Whiteman
Jim & Susan McClendon	Lon & Penny Wilkens
Kirk Newkirk	Lucille Wray
Roy Ogles	

Please Support Our Business Members!

The St. George Lighthouse Association is proud to announce a new Business Member who joined in July. Please welcome Aloha Bugs Pest Management and owner Lois Swoboda to SGLA, and consider her for any of your pest control needs.

Please patronize our Business Members when you are visiting St. George Island:

Aloha Bugs Pest Management
Island Outfitters
Jerry Thompson, Realtor
Journeys of St. George Island

Prudential Shimmering Sands Realty
Sometimes It's Hotter Seasoning Company
St. George Island Civic Club

And if your travels take you to Gettysburg, PA, call Knorrwood Antiques and say hello to Con and Janet Knorr. They are SGI Snowbirds and Business Members of SGLA, and have an antiques shop specializing in English White Ironstone China. We look forward to seeing Janet and Con on the island soon!

Quick Blinks

- Winter Hours at the Cape St. George Light will begin on November 1. For the months of November, December, January, and February, the lighthouse will be open for climbing from 12 noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Wednesday. The lighthouse will be closed on Thursdays. We will extend the open hours to 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the following special dates: November 5 and 6 (Seafood Festival weekend); November 26 and 27 (Thanksgiving weekend); and December 27, 28, 29, and 31 (the week between Christmas and New Years). The Visitor Center's hours will remain 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, and 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.
- The Cape St. George Light was lighted at midnight on October 31 and will stay lighted until sea turtle nesting season begins on May 1, 2011.
- The Coastal Clean-Up held in September was a big success, if you measure success in pounds of trash collected. The total for Franklin County was 10,227 pounds, which equates to more than 51 tons! The St. George Lighthouse Association and the St. George Island Civic Club co-sponsored lunch in Lighthouse Park. Special thanks to SGLA member Ada Long and her team who handled coordination of the island clean-up, and SGLA board member Bud Hayes who grilled some terrific burgers and hot dogs.
- The Cape St. George Light was recognized in two categories in the Best of Florida Awards 2010 sponsored by Florida Monthly Magazine. We won Honorable Mention for "Best Looking Lighthouse" and "Best Historic Landmark." Many thanks to all who voted for the lighthouse and other Franklin County landmarks and businesses in the annual contest.



- Remember that pavers in Lighthouse Park make great holiday gifts. Pavers are \$50.00 and can have inscriptions of up to three lines, 18 characters per line. Print the order form off our website at www.stgeorgelight.org, or contact Terry Kemp at fullmoon.sgi@fairpoint.net.

THE NEWSLETTER HAS A NEW NAME!

The fall edition of our newsletter is inaugurating the newsletter's new name: "Light Reading." The name was submitted by SGLA member Pam Vest, and was selected by the Board of Directors from 13 entries. Pam won a Cape St. George Light T-Shirt for her creativity!

Thank you to Pam, and a special thank you to artist Neal Smith-Willow who has incorporated the new name into a redesigned masthead for the newsletter.

Please send your comments or suggestions about the newsletter to Terry Kemp at fullmoon.sgi@fairpoint.net.

A Parting Shot....



.... with Special Thanks to
Rusty Amos.