

LIGHT READING



Newsletter Fall 2019

**St. George Lighthouse Association
2B East Gulf Beach Drive
St. George Island, FL 32328
850-927-7745**

www.stgeorgelight.org

SGLA Welcomes New Executive Director



The St. George Lighthouse Association is pleased to announce that Amy Hodson has accepted the position of Executive Director of SGLA and has assumed responsibility for overseeing the activities of the organization.

Amy has a degree in Communication/Marketing from Florida State University and has been employed with Resort Vacation Properties of SGI for the past 10 years. Giving back to the community and working for a non-profit has always been a goal for Amy. Her passion for non-profit work has been shown through her involvement with various local fundraisers including the SGI Brewfest, the Pink-Out, and the SGI Charity Chili Cook-off, among others.

Amy and her husband, Josh, who is the park manager at St. George Island State Park, have been residents of St. George Island for 13 years. They met when they both attended Florida State University. Amy considers herself blessed to call St. George Island her home and SGLA is excited to welcome her to the Lighthouse family.

"I am looking forward to learning more about the rich history of the Cape St. George Light and helping to fulfill the mission of the St. George Lighthouse Association." Amy Hodson, Executive Director.

Lighthouse Board Elects Two New Board Members

The Lighthouse Association Board recently selected two new Board Members to serve on the Association Board of Directors. Drew Robertson, General Manager of the St. George Plantation and Chuck Lombardo, volunteer and docent for lighthouse museum will begin their Board terms at the December meeting.

Drew and Chuck's knowledge and experience will be a valuable asset for the association and community.



View from the top of the lighthouse

SGLA Says Goodbye to Administrative Assistant, Billie Kinnett

The St. George Lighthouse Association would like to extend a fond farewell to Billie Kinnett, who will be moving from the area with her husband, Ranger Mike. Mike recently retired from the Florida State Parks and they have purchased a home in Havana, FL.

Billie was recruited by Vito Bell and Terry Kemp in 2016 to fill a newly formed administrative position with the Lighthouse Association. As SGLA's first Administrative Assistant, Billie helped to transform the workings of the association from a casual volunteer effort to the professional and digitally focused operation that we run today.

She worked to create a new look for our website and Facebook page, and assisted Executive Director Kate Aguiar with replacing the antiquated Microsoft Access membership database with an automated system that processes membership renewals and dues payments online.

Billie quickly and efficiently organized 12 years of files and photographs, and successfully managed the Lighthouse Park paver fundraising program. From editing this newsletter (not her favorite responsibility) to putting up and taking down holiday lights on the lighthouse lantern room, Billie handled it all with style and grace.

Her organizational skills, positive attitude, and strong work ethic will be greatly missed. It will be a difficult challenge to find someone willing to embrace every task – from the nearly impossible to the mundane - with such enthusiasm.

The SGLA Board, membership, and staff extend their thanks and appreciation to Billie, and wish her all the best as she and Mike start the newest chapter of their lives.



THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS

- [Bay View Charters of SGI](#)
- [BJ's Pizza](#)
- [Butler Agency](#)
- [Castaway Liquors](#)
- [Century 21 Collins Realty, Inc.](#)
- [The Gibson Inn](#)
- [Gulf Beach View Vacation Homes](#)
- [Island Adventures](#)
- [Island Dog Beach & Surf Shop](#)
- [Island Dog Outdoors](#)
- [Resort Vacation Properties of SGI](#)
- [Sanders & Duncan, P.A., Attorneys](#)
- [Pandora Schlitt, Naumann Group Real Estate, Inc.](#)
- [SGI Civic Club](#)
- [Thomas Shuler, Law Offices](#)
- [Sometimes It's Hotter Seasoning](#)
- [Helen Spohrer, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices](#)
- [Suncoast Vacation Rentals](#)
- [Survivors Bait and Tackle](#)
- [Rick Watson, Century 21 Collins Realty](#)

Click on any of the Business Members to be directed to their Website or Facebook page



David and Jan Silva stopped by the lighthouse for a visit. David is a descendant of David D. Silva, who was Keeper of the Cape St. George Light from 1917—1921.

Cape St. George Lighthouse

Veterans Day Ceremony

Monday, November 11, 2019

11 AM at Lighthouse Park, St. George Island

Honor Our Veterans

Please join us and help honor all those who have served as we pay tribute and recognize our veterans.



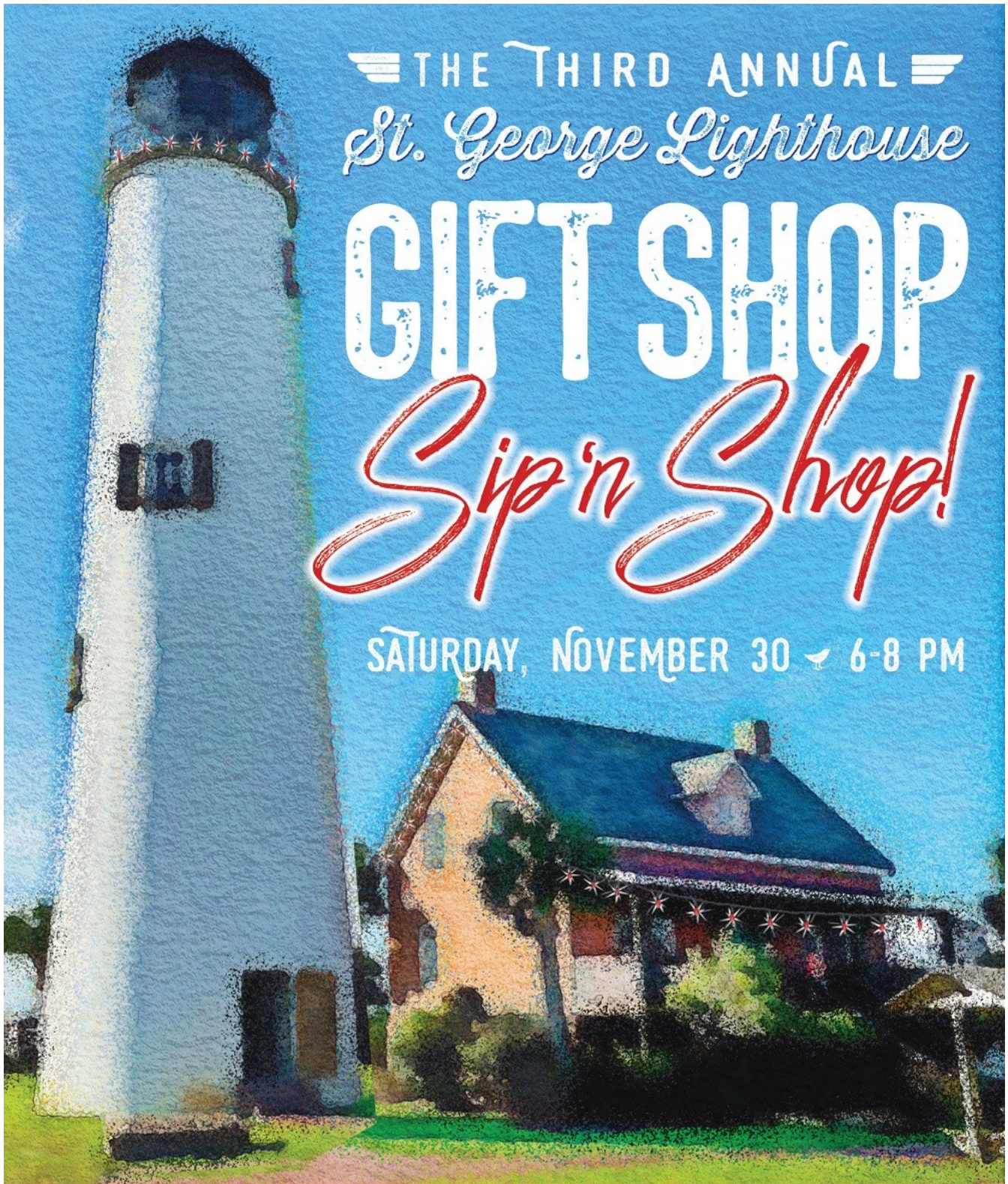
The St. George Lighthouse Association in partnership with SGI Veterans Reveille Group and the 106th American Legion in Apalachicola invite everyone to attend the Veterans Day Ceremony in Lighthouse Park on Monday, November 11, 2019 at 11 AM.

Guest speaker will be Gordon "Goose" Hunter. Yes, he is original "Goose" from Top Gun Movie. His roommate was the technical adviser for the movie. Most notably, he flew his last mission alongside Senator John McCain on the day he was shot down. Gordon is a 30-year Delta Pilot and retired Atlanta businessman who lives in Schooner Landing in the Plantation, pilots his own plane, serves as faith-based volunteer to Franklin County Jail and is leader of the Apalachicola Regional Air Port Advisory Committee.

Refreshments will be served after the ceremony and the lighthouse will be open to everyone with free climbs offered to all veterans. We encourage you to attend as we honor all veterans and fill Lighthouse Park for this very important event.

Gift Shop Hosts Customer Appreciation Event

Start your Christmas shopping early and shop local!!



≡ THE THIRD ANNUAL ≡
St. George Lighthouse

GIFT SHOP

Sip 'n Shop!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30 6-8 PM

♥ HOLIDAY CHEER ♥ SPECIAL PRICING ♥
♥ UNIQUE GIFT IDEAS ♥ SHOP LOCAL ♥

SGLA Founder and Vice-President Pass Away

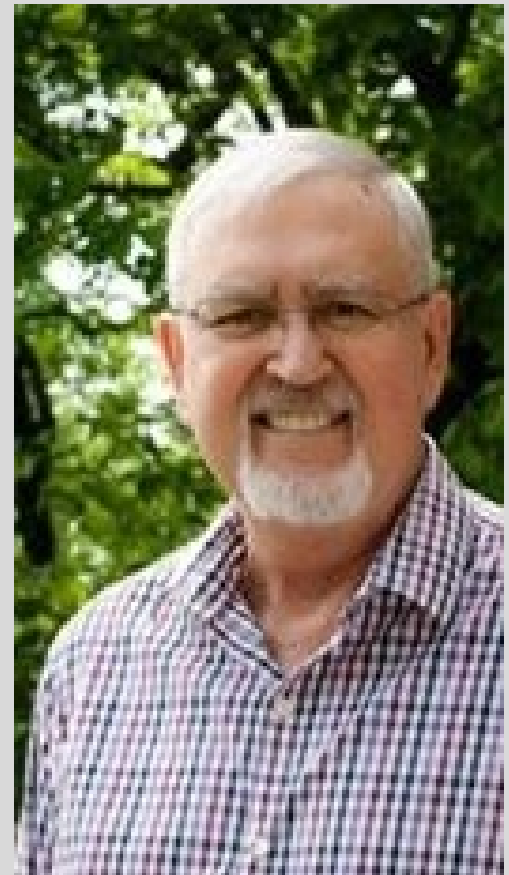
The Lighthouse Association, Board, Membership and Staff would like to extend our sympathies to the families of Dennis Barnell and Vito Bell.

Dennis was the Founder of the St. George Lighthouse Association, and the moving force behind the reconstruction of the lighthouse after it collapsed in 2005. A Celebration of Life was held on September 21st in Lighthouse Park for Dennis. There were over 80 people in attendance, all sitting in the shade of the lighthouse that is standing tall due to the perseverance of our founder, Dennis Barnell. Several people shared their "Snave" stories and will miss their friend.

Vito served over the past 14 years as brick-cleaner, director and vice-president for the Lighthouse Association. An avid golfer and honored member and commissioner of the St. George Island Men's Golf Association, Vito was honored with a memorial service around the flagpole as a memorial brick paver was placed on the golfers walkway. Vito's wisdom and wit will be missed by everyone.



*Dennis "Snave" Barnell
Founder of St. George Lighthouse Association*



*Vito Luco Bell, Jr.
Vito was a long serving
SGLA Board Member and St.
George Island resident*



Membership Application Form

Select a Membership Level:

- Student (must be purchased in person) \$ 10.00 _____
- Individual \$ 25.00 _____
- Family \$ 50.00 _____
- Keeper \$100.00 _____
- Business \$125.00 _____
- Lifetime Patron \$500.00 + _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

E-Mail is the least expensive way for us to communicate with our members. SGLA does not provide its e-mail list to any other organizations.

Did you know many employers will match your contribution? Contact them and double your support!!

Volunteers are needed to work at the Lighthouse, work as docents at the Museum, help with events, provide technical assistance with computer projects, do historical research, etc.

If you would like to volunteer, tell us your preferences:

Benefits of Membership

St. George Lighthouse Association members receive the following benefits.

1. Free admission to the Cape St. George Light as follows:
 - Student : Member named on card for annual membership term, with Student ID (must be purchased in person)
 - Individual: Member named on card for annual membership term
 - Family: Member, spouse, children under 18 for annual membership term
 - Keeper: Member, spouse, and family for annual membership term
 - Lifetime Patron: Same as Keeper, plus accompanying guests, for life of member
 - Business: Admission for owner or primary contact at Keeper level. Employees of Business members are entitled to one free climb per membership year.
2. 10% discount on merchandise at the Lighthouse Gift Shop.
3. Voting privileges at membership meetings
4. Cape St. George Light updates and newsletters via email.
5. Support for the continued preservation of the historic Cape St. George Light!
6. Business Members are entitled to a link on the SGLA website and recognition in quarterly newsletters.

SGLA's paid memberships renew annually 1 year from membership purchase date. Payments can be made via mail, in the Lighthouse Gift Shop or online thru our website; www.stgeorgelight.org

3 Options To Join or Renew Membership:

1. Fill out Membership Application. Please print clearly and remember to include your email address if you have one. Make check payable to: St. George Lighthouse Association
Mail to: St. George Lighthouse Association
2B East Gulf Beach Drive
St. George Island, Florida 32328
2. Visit our Gift Shop/Museum to make payment in person.
3. Visit www.stgeorgelight.org to purchase or renew your membership online and click on Membership under the Support Us tab!!

“Grands” Brooks Family Tradition

1st Time Climbers For 2019

A “Yearly Climb” has become a family tradition when the entire Brooks family vacations on SGI ... 10 years and counting. In fact, when Grands reach the specified height requirement they receive a trophy from the family after they have completed their 1st Climb - only one of the nine Grands has yet to climb.

Grandpa and Grandma Brooks purchased a brick paver as a birthday surprise for one of their nine grandchildren. Three of the Grands purchased a paver in 2018 in honor of the SGI family tradition and their grandparents.



First time climbers are finally tall enough to be included in the Brooks family tradition.



Grandmother Randi Brooks from Marietta, GA and 8 of her 9 grandchildren pose on the step of the lighthouse. Each of them have climbed to the top. The climb is a Brooks family tradition when they vacation here.



Three of the Grands standing by the paver they purchased in 2018 for their grandparents.

Full Moon Climbs for 2019

The Cape St. George Lighthouse offers Sunset & Full Moon Climbs each month. Full Moon Climbs include light hors d'oeuvres and water. Cost is \$15 for the general public and \$10 for members of the St. George Lighthouse Association. Times vary throughout the year so make sure to check out the schedule below. Because space is limited, reservations are recommended. Prepaid reservations for any 2019 Full Moon Climb can be made at the Lighthouse Gift Shop.

If you don't have reservations, you can still enjoy the Full Moon Climb! After sunset, people are invited to climb to the top of the lighthouse for a breathtaking view of the full moon, as space and time permit. Cost is \$10 for the general public and \$5 for SGLA members.

Parking is available in lots at either side of the park. Please contact the Lighthouse Gift Shop at 850-927-7745 for reservations or more information.

2019 Full Moon Schedule

Date	Day	Moon Name	Time
November 11, 2019	Monday	Beaver	5:30 - 7:00 pm
December 11, 2019	Wednesday	Cold	5:30 - 7:00 pm

GET SOCIAL WITH US!!



[Capelighthouse:](#)



[SGL Light](#)

[Lighthouse Gift Shop](#)

[Saint George Island Lighthouse and Museum](#)

Website: www.stgeorgelight.org

Quick Blinks • click the links below to learn more!!!!

- Become a Lighthouse Member today - [Join Now](#)
- Want to volunteer? - [Become a lighthouse museum docent](#)
- Lighthouse, Gift Shop & Museum Winter Hours; Closed on Thursdays and Noon to 5 every other day
- Purchase a brick paver for your next special occasion. They make great gifts that last forever. [Brick Paver Purchase](#)



If you are an Amazon shopper, you can add St George Lighthouse Association Inc as your charitable organization to support when shopping on [AmazonSmile](#). No extra cost to anyone, same products, just shop thru [Amazon Smile](#).

A Parting Shot . . . Blast From the Past



*Group photo from the first Veterans Ceremony held in **2017***



*Group photo from the 2nd Annual Veterans Ceremony held in **2018***