



BLMA NEWS

BEAVERTAIL LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

Nearly Ten Thousand visitors, from all over the world, toured the museum this season!

This was some of the good news heard at The Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Annual meeting which was held on September 30, 1997, at the Jamestown Philomenian Library. Board President, Anthony J. Faria and Treasurer, W. Craig Armington, delivered their good news before an audience of long time supporters and volunteers.

The slate of officers elected were:

President: Anthony J. Faria
 Vice President: Peter Frazier
 Treasurer: W. Craig Armington
 Secretary: Marilyn Thomas
 Directors: Charles Auld
 Jean Y. Boschen
 David Clem
 Robert Dennis
 Linda Levesque
 Susan Warszawski

Anthony S. Nicolosi, Director of the Naval War College Museum, was the keynote speaker. Mr. Nicolosi presented us with an engrossing guided tour through the beginning and background stages of the Naval War College Museum. In so doing

he inspired some new thinking regarding the displays and exhibits at our own Beavertail Lighthouse Museum. During his illustrated lecture, Mr. Nicolosi stressed the importance of volunteers and the indispensable role they play. BLMA members, David Clem and Bill Bricker, were cited for their contributions of time, ideas, and actual exhibit items to the War College Museum. We were also impressed by the number of changing exhibits at the museum and the innovative techniques that were used to minimize display costs.

Mr. Nicolosi ended his informative lecture by stating that he feels the two most important functions of a museum are: One - a museum collects and preserves the artifacts of our cultural heritage, and two - a museum educates. In this statement Mr. Nicolosi reaffirms the goal and intent of The Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association.



JUNE WEBB says her tireless work for BLMA has been

"A LABOR OF LOVE"



June Webb has been a persistent and steady worker on behalf of the Beavertail Lighthouse Museum. She was among a group of local artists who saw the need and value of a lighthouse museum and who raised money for the museum by donating and selling their paintings for the cause. June has been involved in every aspect of the museum, from painting and scraping the walls to her more recent role as Merchandise Committee Chairperson. In this capacity she has set the foundation for our continually successful gift shop. She has long been a Saturday regular at the Museum and although she has just retired from the Board and its responsibilities we hope she will continue to grace us with her bright presence.

At the recent Annual Meeting, in gratitude and deep appreciation for all June Webb has done for the Beavertail Lighthouse Museum, Tony Faria presented her with the Harbour Light's Model of Beavertail Lighthouse. June modestly accepted this award, with the simple but plainly true statement that her work on behalf of the Museum had been a labor of love.



EXCERPTS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S AND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORTS

1997 was a very good year and a very busy year for the Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association. As mentioned earlier, the museum was host to almost 10,000 visitors from all over the world. Many of these visitors took advantage of the ever increasing variety of Beavertail offerings at the Gift Shop. The shop is often complimented on the attractiveness of its book selections. Outstanding among these this year was "Seaweed Their Pasture," by Kit Wright, of which over one hundred copies were donated by the Wright Family. Another winner was the children's book, "Mr. Rat." Anyone

who has read this tale written and donated by Peter Frazier knows why it so quickly sold out. Sales of a newly introduced, colorful lighthouse pin, with a flashing red light were so surprising that the manufacturer has offered to design a special Beavertail Pin, if we supply the picture! The addition of the Harbour Lights' Model of Beavertail, a genuine collector's item, has likewise created still another unique memento for Beavertail visitors.

Museum volunteers staffed sales booths at the *Conanicut Island Art Association Christmas Sale* and at the *Jamestown Ferry Days* exhibit this summer. Beavertail merchandise sales at both events were very gratifying. Sincere thanks to all those who staffed sales booths at these important fund raising events, as well as the many volunteers who work behind the scenes or at the museum itself. It can't be said enough, "We couldn't do it without you!"

We also could not have done it without Volunteer Coordinator, Bill McCraw. His is a job that requires patience, organizational skills, and yes, coordination. Imagine having to staff the museum for an average of 120 days, twice a day. It is an awesome task and one he has done exceptionally well.

Thanks to another Champlin Foundation Grant of twelve thousand dollars, the Lens Room and Fireplace/Exhibit Room have been refurbished. The entire interior, including upstairs, has been painted and the floors have been recoated. RISE Engineering has insulated the attic, sealed outside surfaces and air leaks and installed interior storm windows. This has resulted in a decrease in our heating oil bill.

It is interesting to note that the number of LIFETIME MEMBERS has doubled since this category was first introduced. At this time total

membership receipts are somewhat less than 1996 although we anticipate income will exceed prior years in view of the announced incentive plan which extends the expiration date to the end of 1998. (Wouldn't now be a good time to renew if you haven't already done so? The form on the next page makes it very simple to do so!)

The year 1999 marks the 250th Anniversary of the Beavertail Lighthouse. Much of the work we have done to date will serve us well in planning this event but there is much more to be done. The volunteers and Board of Directors is looking forward to meeting this challenge!



ON THE HORIZON.....

Remember some of the wonderful items that were for sale this past summer in the Museum Gift Shop? Wish you had picked up a few things as Holiday gifts? Here's your chance.....

Museum volunteers will be staffing a sales booth at the **HOLIDAY ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW** at the Melrose Avenue School on **Saturday, December 6, 1997.**

Don't miss this opportunity!

❄️ **HAPPY HOLIDAYS** ❄️

BLMA NEWS editor-
Marilyn Thomas



Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association

MEMBERSHIP

I want to be an active participant of the
Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Assoc.!
I have indicated my area(s) of interest
below :

- ☐ Volunteer Museum Attendant
- ☐ Building Maintenance Committee
- ☐ Fund Raising Committee
- ☐ Nominating Committee
- ☐ Archives Committee
- ☐ Museum Clean-up Committee
(in May or during summer)
- ☐ Group tours liaison
- ☐ Publicity/newsletter committee
- ☐ Oral history project
- ☐ Holiday Open House
- ☐ Naturalist program liaison
- ☐ Other ?

Suggestions: _____

Thank you again for your support.
See you at the Museum !

Please check one

New Member ☐

Renewal ☐

for membership period ending

12/31/98

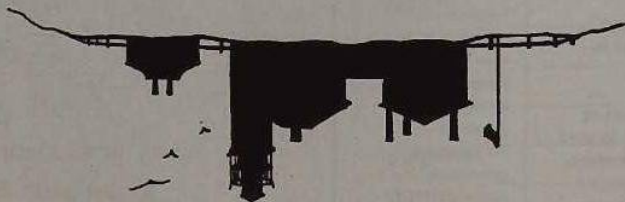
- ☐ Individual membership \$15.00
- ☐ Individual Life Membership \$100.00
- ☐ Family Membership \$25.00
- ☐ Student Membership \$5.00
- ☐ B.L.M.A. Sponsor \$50.00
- ☐ Donation \$ _____

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Mail to:
Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Assoc.
P.O. Box 83
Jamestown, R.I. 02835



**Beavertail Lighthouse
Museum Association**

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