

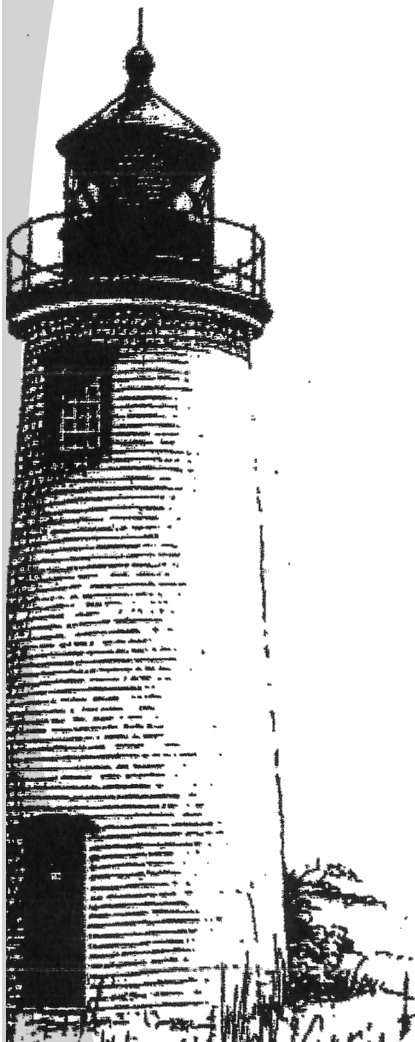
**Friends Board Members  
(current 9/2019)**

John Vogl, President  
Christina Vogl, Vice President  
Linda Collins, Secretary  
Megan St John, Treasurer  
Steve Atherton  
Ron Barrett  
Bill Cooper  
Cynthia Cooper  
Marcia Perkins

Newsletter assembled by the  
Friends of the Plum Island Light  
PO Box 381  
Newburyport, MA 01950

Contact the Friends by email:  
friendsofpilight@aol.com

By phone:  
978-462-4593 (Roslin Esposito)  
603-672-5379 (John Vogl)



# Friends of the Plum Island Light Summer, 2020 Newsletter

## **What a year 2020 has been.**

**The public activities of the Friends of the Plum Island Light had to close to the public in 2020 due to Coronavirus. We continue to monitor the situation and hope to offer guided tours in some fashion in the future.**

**In spite of the lack of public openings, it has remained a productive year. With your help, the Friends have been busy making major improvements to our Tower. Previous work to repaint of the exterior, weatherproof the boathouse and repair the safety rails made such a big improvement. This year we undertook a project to replace cracked glass in the lantern room and to repaint the interior of that same space, following the application of caulking/ weather sealant as part of the glass installation.**

**The glass replacement was a major project. Board member Bill Cooper served as project manager. Together with assistant project manager board member Steve Atherton this experienced and capable team ably addressed all the issues, questions, concerns and change orders that came up along the way. We were blessed with their leadership.**

**Immediately, upon commencing the search for a contractor, we identified the unique of the condition of our tower's windows, in the form of bent glass. This style barely exists today and in**

**fact, is extremely rare even among historic lighthouses. As a result, our list of contractors capable of completing the project quickly shrank. We were fortunate to receive a referral by Ron Perkins for a contractor in Salem, NH - New England Glass and Finishing (NEGF) - whose customers include high end properties and Boston's luxury towers. Our project was actually one of the last for our contact, Mr. Jay Green, who retired from the business this past spring. We are grateful to have captured his expertise while it was available. NEGF found a supplier who could fabricate the templates and cut to the exact size and shape needed. While we originally embarked on a project to replace 3 cracked panes, the contractor**

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identified up to 6 panes that needed repair. In the process, the contractor removed the blackout paint that had been applied to windows facing abutters. This change brings considerably more daylight into the tower and increases the visibility of the light from southern points on the island, including much of the Basin.

During the glass install, the Friends identified imperfections in the lantern room's exterior door that places an unbalanced tension on the top and bottom and risks re-breaking our newly installed glass. We will be examining fixes as one of our next projects. It may be safe to say the Tower has never looked better! Thanks again to Bill Cooper, Steve Atherton, the Nancy Wear Foundation and all the generous contributions of our members that made it all possible.

Also, please join us in thanking Treasurer Megan St John for identifying and writing a successful application for a \$1,000 grant from the US Lighthouse Society. I encourage all our members to visit the

This year's Annual Meeting will be held remotely using Zoom video conferencing. The meeting will be September 16, 2020 at 7:30. This will be a business meeting to elect officers. To participate please email us at [friendsofpilight@aol.com](mailto:friendsofpilight@aol.com) for the Zoom

website of the US Lighthouse Society – [www.uslhs.org](http://www.uslhs.org) – where you can find all sorts of information on lighthouses across the country, including photos, indexes, stories, podcasts. It's a tremendous resource.

Lastly is a call for help. For a \$10 to \$20 yearly donation become a member if you are not already and encourage friends and neighbors to join. These small contributions are the heart and soul of our organization. Call or email us [Friendsofpilight@aol.com](mailto:Friendsofpilight@aol.com) to join.

Consider volunteering any special talents, landscaping, carpentry, electrician or by joining the Board. If you appreciate the Light, or use it to find your way back from sea or across Joppa Flats, we invite you to help. Feel free to call. We'd enjoy talking with you.



Ceiling of the repainted lantern room, painted by 2Penn Painting and Roofing in August 2020

### MEMORIAL BRICK ORDER FORM

Honor the memory of a loved one, celebrate the birth of someone special, commemorate even yourself - the possibilities are vast. Memorial gift cards are available. Due the size of the brick, the inscription may only contain up to 3 lines with a maximum of 14 letters. Nick names and cottage names are fine.

To order, fill out coupon below. Please print clearly. Enclose your check or money order in the amount of \$50 and mail to:

**Friends of Plum Island Light, P.O. Box 381, Newburyport, MA 01950**

Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_