

F N I L

FRIENDS OF NASH ISLAND LIGHT



NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2021

Board of Directors

Ann Casey-Graves
Les Coleman
Harry Fish
Nathan Hendrie
Jerry Metz
Gray Miles
Richard Miles
Gail Moorehouse
John Page
Elyse Rudner
Alf Wakeman
Wren Wakeman

This year's Annual Meeting will take place at Cape Split Chapel (Note change of meeting location) on THURSDAY, AUGUST 19 AT 7 PM. Presentation by Fran and Eric Chetwynd will include restoration history of the Burnt Coat Harbor Light Station, Swan's Island. The meeting is free and open to the public.

Greetings Friends of Nash Island Light members!

As usual the lighthouse tower suffered from a bit of annual spalling of its brick. By the end of the summer a small work party will have touched up the tower and repainted the storm door.

Many thanks to Jack Glover of South Addison for making and donating an access door from the cupola to the deck. Thanks also to Donna Kausen who made the cleat on the rock for landing. Ice had removed the old cleat but she replaced it with materials she found on the beach.

Lamb and Sheep Report: As of July 7, Alf Wakeman reports there are 21 ewes on Little Nash with 11 lambs; and 96 ewes and 81 lambs on Big Nash. Three rams were moved back to The Ladle.

In our effort to link up with other lighthouses and their community members we have invited Eric and Fran Chetwynd to present at our annual meeting on August 19. The Chetwynds forged the path to restoration for Burnt Coat Harbor Light Station on Swan's Island. Burnt Coat is considered a "sister light" to Nash Island because they both have the same square build and similar dimensions. There are only 3 square towers in Maine.

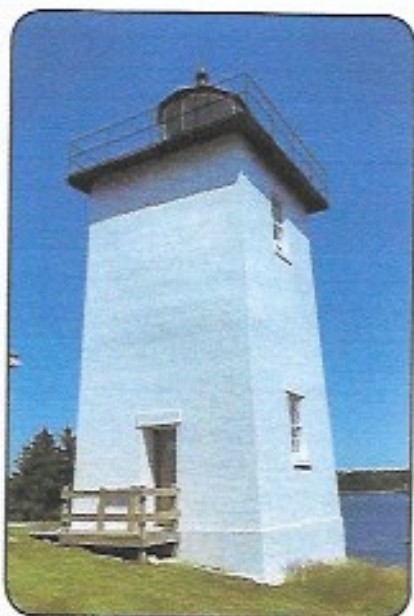
The Chetwynds will share the history of Burnt Coat, how they started on the restoration effort, the triumphs and challenges, and how they got the job done. The last piece is the tower's interior masonry which will be completed this fall, just in time for Burnt Coat's sesquicentennial celebration next summer.

Incidentally, Richard and Gray Miles restored the foundation of Burnt Coat Light's keepers house back in 2007. Unfortunately the Nash Island keepers house had been demolished by the Coast Guard before FNIL became responsible for the property.

Burnt Coat continues today as an active light. It is located at the tip of a 20 acre peninsula that protects the main working harbor of a 7,000 acre island that has a thriving year-round community and large summer population.

During their visit on August 19, the Chetwynds look forward to learning about the Nash Island Light and to a lively exchange during Q&A.

Please attend our annual meeting in support of the on-going restoration and maintenance of our beloved Lighthouse. As Oscar Look Jr. reminded us *"Imagine looking out there without her? She guides us. She is there for us. We need to take care of her."*



Burnt Coat light



Don't forget! National Lighthouse Day is August 7.

- The first lighthouse was Egypt's Pharos of Alexandria, built in the third century BC. The lighthouse of Alexandria was made from a fire on a platform to signal the port entrance.
- The world's oldest existing lighthouse is considered to be Tower of Hercules, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that marks the entrance to Spain's La Coruña harbor. The lighthouse, erected in the first century, is still operational.
- Lighthouse keeping was one of the first U.S. government jobs available to women, going back to the 19th century. (<https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/lighthouse-facts-irpt/index.html>)

This year's Annual Meeting will take place at Cape Split Chapel (Note change of meeting location) on THURSDAY, AUGUST 19 AT 7 PM. Presentation by Fran and Eric Chetwynd will include restoration history of the Burnt Coat Harbor Light Station, Swan's Island. The meeting is free and open to the public.