



# PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE ILLUMINATIONS

4931 South Peninsula Drive • Ponce Inlet, Florida 32127 • [www.ponceinlet.org](http://www.ponceinlet.org) • [www.lighthouselocker.org](http://www.lighthouselocker.org) • (386) 761-1821 • [lighthouse@ponceinlet.org](mailto:lighthouse@ponceinlet.org)  
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- 2 LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- 3 HOURS OF OPERATION
- 4 KEEPER LISTING
- 6 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
- 7 FEATURE ARTICLE:  
WISH YOU WERE HERE
- 12 VOLUNTEER ARTICLE
- 13 EDUCATION ARTICLE:  
LIGHTHOUSE HAPPENINGS
- 15 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
- 16 GIFT SHOP



Dear Members,

I hope this issue of Illuminations finds you happy and well. The spring and early summer seasons are always active at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse on as travelers flock to the Daytona Beach area from far and wide in search of sunshine and sparkling beaches. In addition to its regular daily offerings, the Preservation Association hosts numerous events throughout this time of year. Be sure to visit us on Saturday, April 6th for Florida Lighthouse Day. Held annually, this important event celebrates Florida's rich maritime and lighthouse history. Onsite activities will include guided tours of the light station and numerous family-oriented workshops. I would like to express my sincere thanks to VyStar Credit Union for its sponsorship of the museum's Beach Racing Day event this past February as well as its upcoming Florida Lighthouse Day, International Museum Day, and Flag Day events on April 6th, May 18th, and June 15th respectively. Please refer to the Calendar of Events on page six for more information regarding these and other scheduled offerings in the coming quarter.

We are pleased to announce that the BB&T 4th order bi-valve Fresnel lens currently on display in the Ayres Davies Lens Exhibit is now mounted on a rotational mechanism that more accurately replicates its original characteristic. Inspired by what is believed to be the lens's original base, this modern addition to the historic lighthouse optic was designed and manufactured by Dan Spinella of Artworks Florida. Based in Central Florida, Dan has worked with the Association on numerous occasions on a variety of lens projects and is one of the nation's leading experts on Fresnel lenses and lens replication. I invite you all to visit the museum in the near

future to see this wonderful lighthouse optic in action.

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Rocky Pagliarulo on December 29th, 2018. The husband of long-time Board of Trustee member and lighthouse advocate Ellen Pagliarulo, Rocky was 91 years old when he passed away. Our sincerest condolences go out to his friends and family including Ellen, his children Rocky and Cindi, and his entire extended family. Rocky was loved and will be missed by all those who knew him.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Phyllis Campbell for her many years of service to the Association as both an Advisory Committee member and lighthouse volunteer. Phyllis stepped down from the committee this past winter after selling her home in Ponce Inlet and moving out of state to be closer to her children and family. We greatly appreciate everything Phyllis and her late husband Tommy did for the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. God speed and good luck Phyllis, we will miss you.

The Association's maintenance department has remained actively engaged in ongoing lighthouse tasks since the extensive preservation work to the tower's interior and exterior metalwork and lantern room tie-down rods was completed in October, 2018. The maintenance department's accomplishments during this time includes the full restoration of a tower window, the installation of new interpretive signs, the restoration of the tower's watch room cabinets, installation of new Plexiglas shields around the base of the lantern room, and the repainting of much of the tower's interior masonry walls. Restoration and preservation work is one of the Association's most important

responsibilities and we take great pride in the commitment and dedication of each member of our maintenance department.

Membership is the cornerstone of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association. In an effort to increase public awareness and advocacy for this important National Historic Landmark I ask you to consider purchasing an annual membership for a family member or friend. Gift memberships cost as little as \$10 and are a wonderful way to support the Association while passing on your love for the lighthouse to others.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members for their continued support and to express my sincere appreciation for those who have contributed to the Lighthouse General Operating Fund and/or Lighthouse Endowment Fund this fiscal year. Your generosity will help ensure the continued success of the Association's ongoing mission of preserve and disseminate the maritime and social history of this Ponce Inlet Lighthouse for this and future generations. Those wishing to donate may do so online at [www.lighthouselocker.org](http://www.lighthouselocker.org), by mailing a check directly to the lighthouse using the envelope provided in this issue of Illuminations, or in person by visiting the museum's gift shop.

Have a wonderful spring and summer season! We hope to see you soon!

With Warm Regards,

*Ed Gunnlaugsson*

Ed Gunnlaugsson  
Executive Director  
Ponce Inlet Lighthouse

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LEAD DOCENT

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ASSISTANT GIFT SHOP MANAGER  
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PORT ORANGE  
PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB  
WINNING PHOTO IN THE  
NOVICE/BEGINNER CATEGORY.

PHOTOGRAPHER:  
Richard Squillante

Taken with a Nikon D5500  
Settings: f/16 1/1250 Nikon  
A/F 34mm 18-140mm ISO  
1600

Bio: Richard hails from Long  
Island, NY. His life-long  
passion for photography  
began in high school.

THE PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION IS DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION AND DISSEMINATION OF THE MARITIME AND SOCIAL HISTORY OF THE PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHT STATION.

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Subscription is a benefit of membership in the Association. *ILLUMINATIONS* welcomes letters and comments from our readers.

## REGULAR HOURS OF OPERATION

SEPT 4, 2018 – MAY 26, 2019  
OPEN DAILY FROM 10:00 AM UNTIL 6:00 PM  
(LAST MUSEUM ADMISSION SOLD AT 5:00 PM)

MAY 27, 2019 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2019  
OPEN DAILY FROM 10:00 AM UNTIL 9:00 PM  
(LAST MUSEUM ADMISSION SOLD AT 8:00 PM)

## SPECIAL HOURS OF OPERATION

### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

MAY 25 & 26, 2019 (SAT & SUN)

OPEN FROM 10:00 AM UNTIL 7:00 PM (LAST MUSEUM ADMISSION AT 6:00 PM)

## SCHEDULED TOWER CLOSURES

### JUNE 17, 2019 (MONDAY)

TOWER CLOSED FROM 7:15 PM UNTIL 9:00 PM  
MUSEUM AND GIFT SHOP OPEN UNTIL 9:00 PM  
(LAST MUSEUM ADMISSION SOLD AT 8:00 PM)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### APRIL 15, 2019 (MONDAY)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
(OPEN TO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP)

### MAY 20, 2019 (MONDAY)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
(CLOSED TO GENERAL PUBLIC AND MEMBERSHIP)

### JUNE 17, 2019 (MONDAY)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
(CLOSED TO GENERAL PUBLIC AND MEMBERSHIP)

## CLIMB TO THE MOON SCHEDULE

### CLIMB TO THE MOON

APRIL 19, 2019  
(FRIDAY)  
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

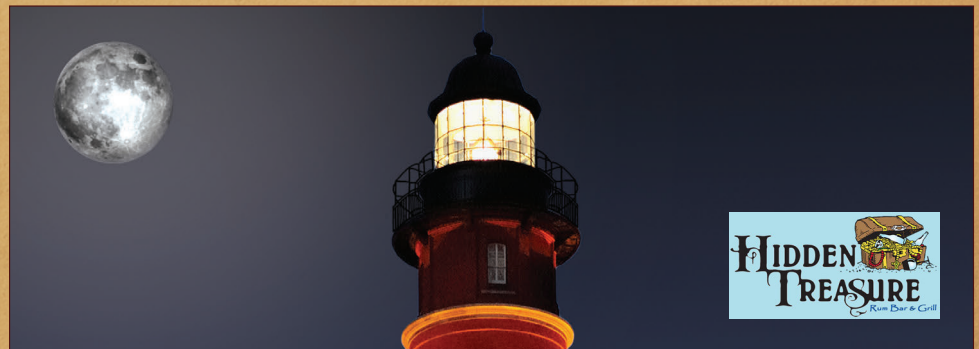
MAY 18, 2019  
(SATURDAY)  
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

JUNE 17, 2019  
(MONDAY)  
7:45 PM – 9:15 PM

Journey to the top of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and experience this National Historic Landmark in all its glory. Join the *Old Lighthouse Keeper* on a personal tour of lighthouse and lantern room, and enjoy breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean, Ponce Inlet, and scenic inland waterways.

Toast the setting sun with a sparkling beverage and enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres by the light of the full moon with your significant other and friends. Offered only on the eve of each full moon, this special event is limited to 25 participants only. Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling Angel at (386) 761-1821 ext. 10. Prices are \$35 for non-members and \$30 for members.

Food for this event is generously donated by Hidden Treasure Rum Bar and Grille. Locally owned and operated, Hidden Treasure Restaurant offers a wide selection of delicious entrees, appetizers, and beverages and is located directly across from the lighthouse on the north bank of the Ponce Inlet waterway. You can visit them online at [www.hiddentreasurerestaurants.com](http://www.hiddentreasurerestaurants.com)



U.S. Light House Service **CORPORATE LAMPISTS** U.S. Light House Service

**The Connection**  
 Harvey & Connie Bach  
 Ponce Inlet, FL  
 (Endowment Fund Donor)  
 In Memory of Earl Davis



**VyStar**  
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 Port Orange, FL  
 (Beach Racing Day Sponsor)



**Ponce Inlet Corvette Club**  
 Frank Italiano  
 New Smyrna Beach, FL



**Ponce Inlet Corvette Club**  
 Ponce Inlet, FL  
 (Endowment Fund Donor)

**Raymond James & Associates**  
 Brian & Kasey Layman  
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 (Endowment Fund Donor)



**Racing's North Turn**  
 Walt & Rhonda Glasnak  
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 (Endowment Fund Donor)



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Port Orange, FL

Ron & Sharon Redick  
Columbus, OH

William & Mary Rieder  
Ormond Beach, FL

Chapman J. Root II  
Ormond Beach, FL

Kim & Ej Rossow  
Ponce Inlet, FL

Gordon Russell  
Daytona Beach, FL

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Ponce Inlet, FL

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Ponce Inlet, FL

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Gahanna, OH

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Ponce Inlet, FL

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Wayne & Joanne Thaller  
Port Orange, FL

Mary Jane Thompson  
Port Orange, FL

Patio R. Vagts  
Ponce Inlet, FL

Pam Williams  
Gainesville, FL

**APRIL 6, 2019, ..... FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSE DAY**  
**SATURDAY, 10:30 AM TO 2:30 PM**

Celebrate our state’s rich maritime and lighthouse history by visiting the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse on Florida Lighthouse Day! Tour the historic grounds, climb to the top of Florida’s tallest lighthouse, and participate in family-oriented activities and workshops. Learn about lighthouse and regional history from the museum’s historic reenactors and stop by the Principal Keeper’s office to talk with the “Old Lighthouse Keeper” about his many light keeping duties as well as Florida’s historic light stations.

**MAY 9, 2019, ..... SPRING HOMESCHOOL DAY**  
**THURSDAY, 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM**

Join us on May 9th for the museum’s Spring Homeschool Day! An annual event that draws students and parents from far and wide, Spring Homeschool Day is one of the lighthouse’s most popular educational offerings. The theme of this year’s spring event will focus on navigation by exploring how early mariners steered their vessels across the open ocean and will include a multitude of hands-on interactive workshops including compass reading, quadrants, map reading, knots per hour, sundials, and more.

Special admission prices apply for this event. Limited to 75 participants, advanced reservations are required. Parents may register their student(s) online at [www.lighthouselocker.org](http://www.lighthouselocker.org) starting April 9th at 1:00 pm. Please contact Mary Wentzel at [mwentzel@ponceinlet.org](mailto:mwentzel@ponceinlet.org), or (386) 761-1821 ext. 18, for more information.

**MAY 19, 2019, ..... INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY**  
**SATURDAY, 10:30 AM TO 2:30 PM**

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse is proud to be a part of the international museum community. Museums are the story tellers of mankind’s collective knowledge and experiences. Observed annually by museums around the world, International Museum Day celebrates these important centers of learning. Participate in fun, hands-on activities and workshops designed for children and their families, and meet with lead docent John Mann at 11:00 as he discusses his extensive travels visiting lighthouses all around the world.

**MAY 25-27, 2019 ..... MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
**SATURDAY - MONDAY, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

Join us at the historic Ponce De Leon Inlet Light Station and climb to the top of Florida’s tallest lighthouse! Explore one of the nation’s largest surviving light stations and discover the fascinating history of the US Light-House Service, Ponce Inlet, and the local region. In honor of our men and women in uniform, all active and inactive military personnel will be admitted free of charge on May 28th with proof of service.

**JUNE 15, 2019, ..... FLAG DAY**  
**SATURDAY, 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM**

Join us at the lighthouse in celebration of Flag Day! Participate in numerous family-oriented workshops and activities! Explore the historic Ponce De Leon Inlet Light Station and climb to the top of Florida’s tallest lighthouse! Scheduled activities include learning how Semaphore flags were used by mariners to communicate with other ships at sea and with those on shore; discovering what life was like for lighthouse keepers and their families more than 100 years ago, and; a special arts-and-craft workshop for the kids where they can make their very own lighthouse pennant or flag to keep.

**JULY 4 - 6, 2019, ..... INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**  
**THURSDAY-SATURDAY**

Join us at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum during the July 4th weekend in celebration of Independence Day! Explore our historical exhibits and climb the tallest lighthouse in Florida.

*Visit us online at [www.ponceinlet.org](http://www.ponceinlet.org) to learn more about these and other upcoming scheduled events at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum.*

**ATTENTION READERS: All activities are included with regular or member admission and without advanced reservations unless otherwise noted. Additional information regarding upcoming events can be found online at [www.ponceinlet.org](http://www.ponceinlet.org) under the Calendar of Events tab. Individuals wishing to learn more about these and other museum offerings may contact Programs Manager Mary Wentzel by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 18, or via email at [mwentzel@ponceinlet.org](mailto:mwentzel@ponceinlet.org) for additional information.**

# Wish You Were Here

## *Postcards in the Collection*



Postcard style folder containing 18 images of the Daytona area printed by the E. C. Kopp Company of Milwaukee, c. 1920.

In the era of instant cyber communication, postcards are rapidly going the way of dinosaurs. Although their glory days are over, they still provide a fun and relatively inexpensive way to experience the joy of collecting, and they give us glimpses of histories that might otherwise have been lost.

At the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, our collections include postcards of (naturally) lighthouses and especially cards depicting our own site. These cards provide a record of not just the light station but of postcards in general. They embody a history that really began with the establishment of some form of postal service that was both affordable to many and had at least semi-regular deliveries. In the American colonies, such postal services were attempted in colonies like Massachusetts Bay and Virginia. Boston had a service connecting citizens with England and, by 1672, you could send mail between Boston and New York City. The British Crown generously set up a North American Postal Service in 1691 for use by their colonies and other holdings. But an official postal service would not be created until after the Revolutionary War when the Post Office Department was founded via the authority of the Constitution. Postal routes and roads were established, and mail was also carried by rail and by the famous Pony Express riders on horseback. By 1862, free mail delivery was available in some larger cities.

Although most people seemed to prefer the privacy of letters sent inside envelopes, blank cards, cards

with hand drawn images, cards with photographs, and cards with printed advertising began appearing in late 1848. John Charlton of Philadelphia patented a commercially printed card and then sold the patent rights to Hymen Lipman, whose commercially printed "Lipman's postal cards" began appearing in the early 1860s. These cards had no images but did sport decorative borders.

The US Postal Service began to offer its own postal cards in 1872. These cards were also printed without images, but persons sending the cards could freely decorate them and personalize them. Early cards were called pioneers by collectors, and the Pioneer Era lasted from 1870 until 1898, but by 1873, postcards with printed images were appearing in the United States. Pre-stamped cards were introduced at this time and were often referred to by the public as penny postcards. Private companies were not allowed by the government to use the term Post Card, so they were called private mailing cards (the **Private Mailing Card Era**) until 1901, when this prohibition was lifted. Up to this point, postcards were not allowed to have divided backs. The recipient's



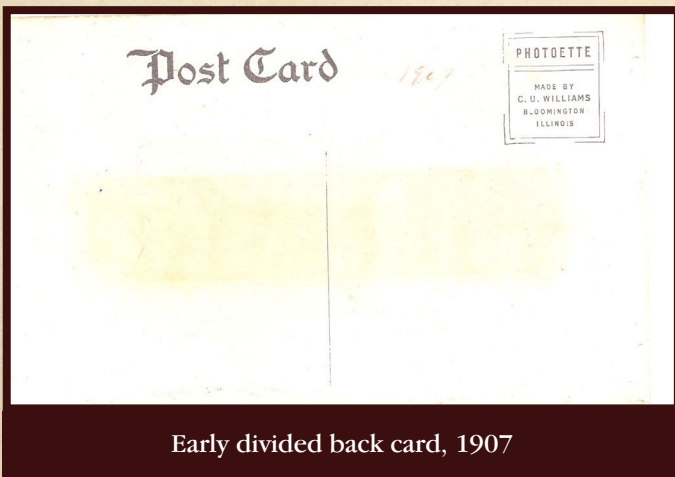
Charlton-Lipman Postal Card, Wikipedia image

address was written on one side and a message from the sender was confined to the other. This time period is referred to by collectors as the **Undivided Back Era**, or the **Post Card Era**.

Our collection of Mosquito Inlet/Ponce Inlet postcards does not include any examples from the Private Mailing Card Era. One of our earliest cards is an undivided back card from the **Post Card Era** that features a black and white image of the lighthouse tower and two of the keeper dwellings.



It was produced c. 1905-1907 by the Peninsula Publishing Company, Seabreeze (now part of Daytona Beach), Florida. It shows the tower with the protective bird net encircling the lantern room. On the right is the second assistant keeper dwelling and on the left is a corner of the principal keeper's house.

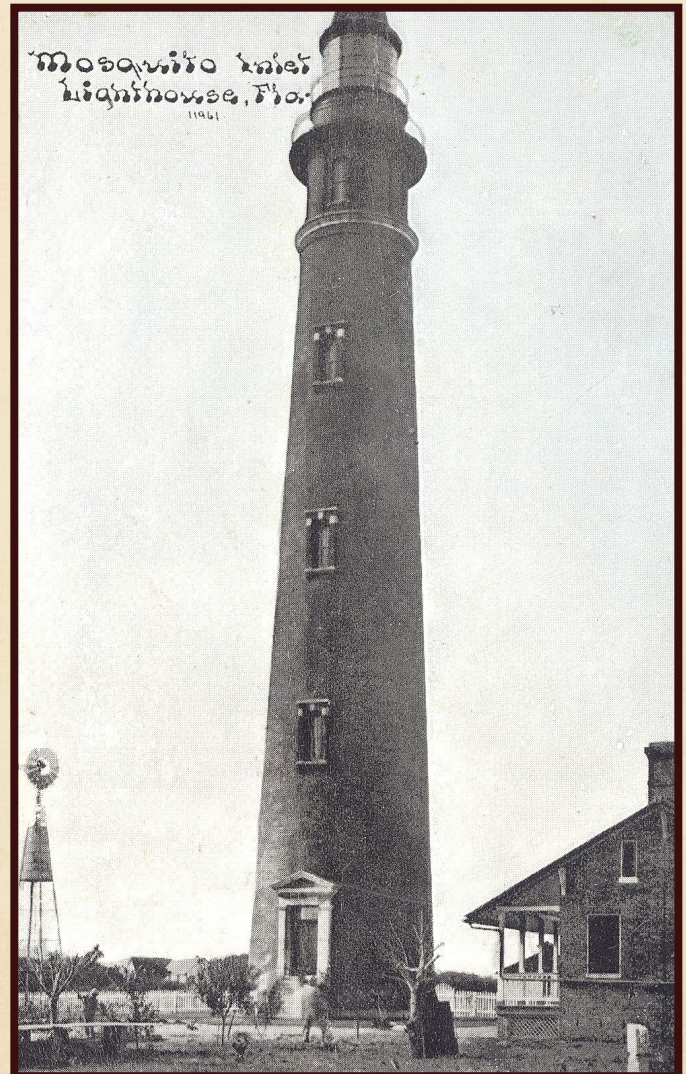


Early divided back card, 1907



Undivided back postcard c. 1905-1907

A divided back style was adopted in 1907. One half of the back was for the message and the other side for the address. This kept the front of the card available for an image, and between 1907 and 1910 there was a sort of postcard craze that is sometimes called the **Golden Age**. During this time, beautifully printed color cards from Germany helped to encourage





fascination with postcards, especially as souvenirs, but this golden age came to an end in 1915 as World War I began to disrupt the import of the colorful German cards.

Dating to 1907, the postcard “Mosquito Inlet Lighthouse, Fla.” is an early version of the divided back. The sender’s message went on the left, and the recipient’s address was written on the right. The image on the front side shows the tower, the second assistant dwelling, and on the left side of the tower, a newly installed windmill can be seen which is not in evidence on the previous card.

Another example from the **Golden Age** is a card produced by The Hugh C. Leighton Company of Portland, Maine, and made in Germany. The card dates to around 1915, but the image is a color version of an 1898 photograph. Projecting from the main balcony of the lighthouse is a halyard that was installed briefly in 1898, during the Spanish-American War. The halyard was used to display signal flags to offshore vessels.



Mosquito Inlet Light, Seacoast of Florida

Leighton Company color postcard, c. 1915

The popularity of privately printed souvenir cards continued to grow, and millions of postcards were mailed. From 1916-1930, many cards had a white border around the image leading to the term **White Border Era**. There are many examples of white border cards in our collection.

John Lindquist, along with one of his assistant keepers, is seen in a sepia-tone white border postcard from the early 1920s captioned “Mosquito Inlet Light, Near Daytona, Florida.” During his tenure as principal keeper, Lindquist built a small boat at his own expense which he used in a number of rescues. The boat in this photo is the Tango II, registration number V554. The postcard was produced by the Hankins Drug Company of Daytona.



KEEPER'S RESIDENCE, MOSQUITO INLET LIGHT STATION, PONCE INLET, FLA.

A white border era postcard featuring Principal Keeper John Lindquist and his wife, the former Ella Pomar, in front of their dwelling at Mosquito (Ponce) Inlet. The image probably dates to c. 1918.

Beautiful color postcards were also produced in America during the **White Border Era**. A good example is this image of the lighthouse that may date from 1926-1929. The lighthouse is not named on the card, and the publisher may have been aware that the name of the inlet and the lighthouse was about to change from Mosquito Inlet to Ponce Inlet. During the Florida Real Estate Boom, Mosquito Inlet was understood to be a name that would not appeal to prospective land buyers.



MOSQUITO INLET LIGHT, NEAR DAYTONA, FLORIDA

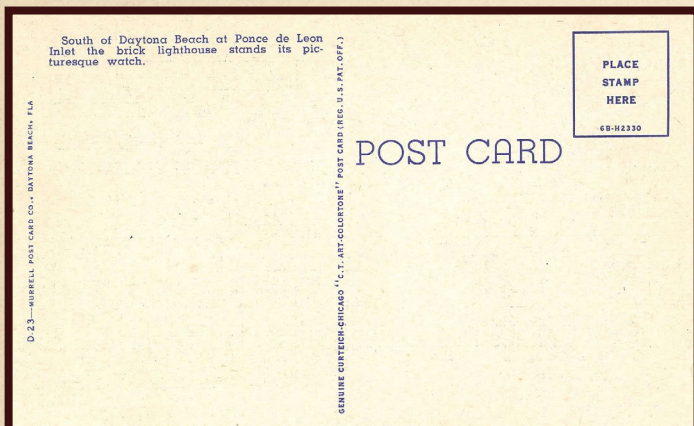
John Lindquist in the Tango II, c. 1921

Around 1930, postcards got a new look with the development of a linen-like finish on the image side of the card, and much more colorful and rich images were made possible by a card stock with a high rag content. One well-known producer of **Linen Period** cards was Curt Teich and Company, which is represented in our collection by cards marked “C.T. Art-Colortown printed by Curteich of Chicago.” Curt Teich was an American publisher who was a pioneer of the offset printing

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POSTCARDS IN THE COLLECTION (continued)

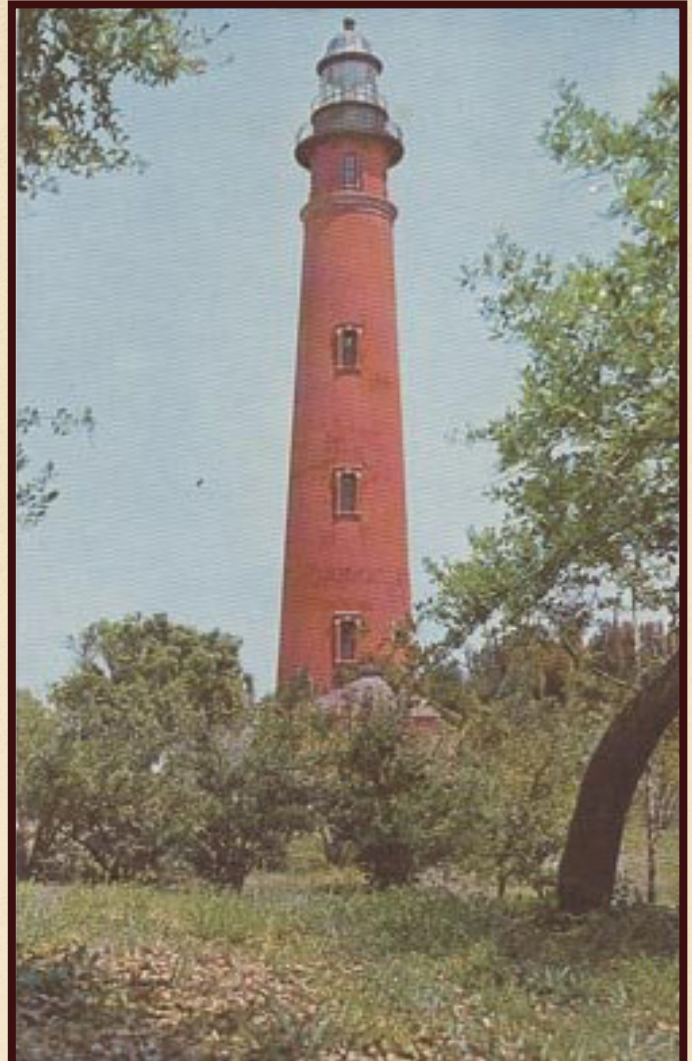
process. A stunning **Linen Era** image of the lighthouse produced by Curteich is an unusual night scene showing the full moon, the lighthouse beacon with two spokes of light, and a car driving on the nearby beach.



A Curt Teich linen era postcard numbered D-23, indicating it was produced in 1929.



Linen era Curteich postcard, c. 1929

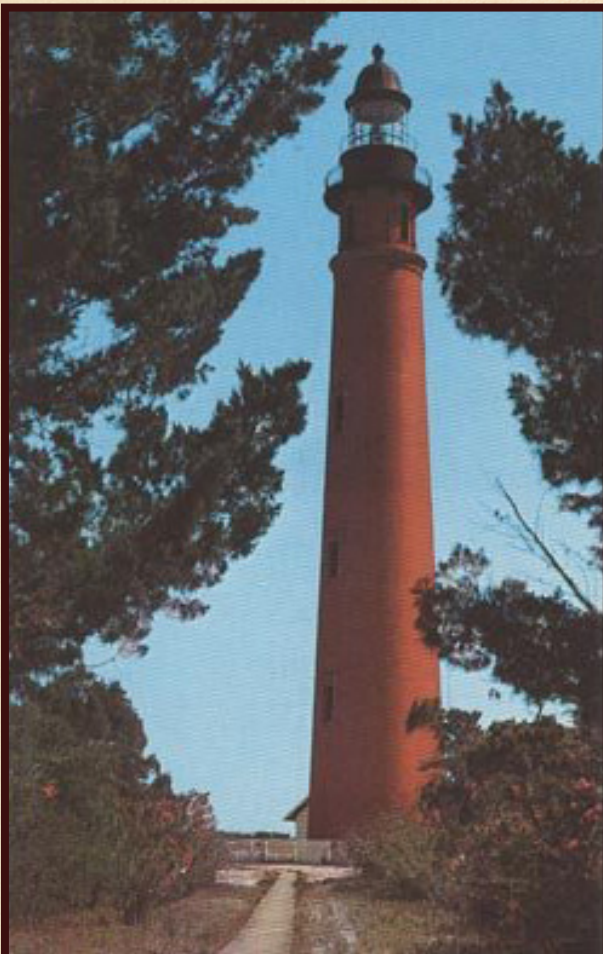


“Lighthouse at Inlet Harbor, Daytona Beach, Fla.”  
Made by Dexter Press, West Nyack,  
New York, c. 1960.

By 1945, the linen-look was being replaced by the **Modern/Chrome Era** cards whose images closely resemble color photographs and are particularly suited to the souvenir market. These cards were under production by 1940 and continue to the present day.

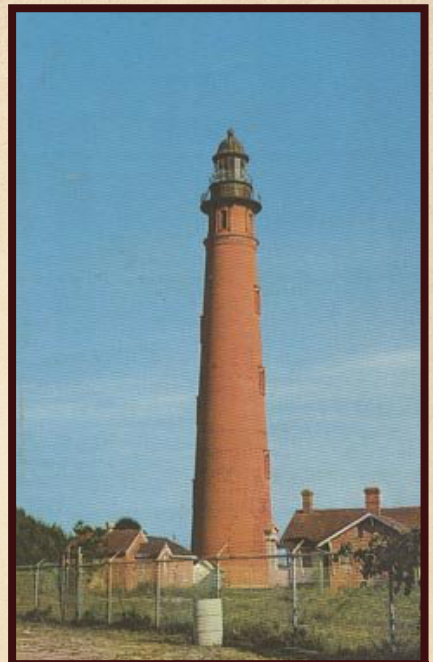
Control of the Lighthouse Service and its facilities had officially passed to the Coast Guard in 1939. By the time the 1960s postcards were produced, the beacon at Ponce Inlet had long been automated, and resident keepers were a thing of the past. Men from the Coast Guard Station at Ponce Inlet would visit from time to time but only minimal upkeep was performed. Signs of neglect are evident in the postcard images.

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Modern/Chrome Era card published by the Southern Card & Novelty Company of Holly Hill, Florida, c.

A Modern/Chrome Era postcard dating from the late 1960s and featuring a trash barrel in the foreground is remarkably similar to the 1959 snapshot of the light station taken by a visitor. In 1970, the lighthouse reservation was decommissioned by the Coast Guard and was sold as surplus property to the Town of Ponce Inlet. The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association was formed in 1972 to manage and restore the site. Over the years, the Preservation Association has created the museum, gained National Historic Landmark status for the site, added new buildings, and expanded the museum's collections to world-class levels.

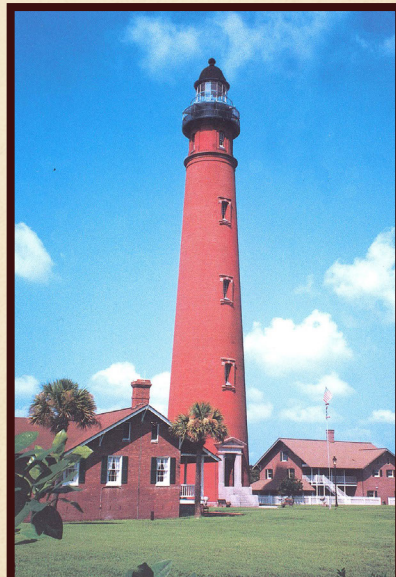


Chrome era postcard, c. late 1960s

Of course, our gift shop still carries a variety of postcards for your collecting and souvenir needs, and cards featuring the light station show the much improved and restored facility.

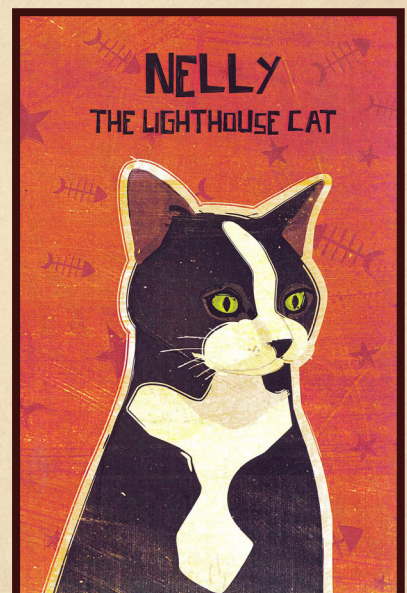


A 1959 visitor snapshot shows the condition of the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station. Still under Coast Guard control, the lighthouse beacon was automated and no longer had resident keepers.



Contemporary postcard available now!

If you have a yen to make your own Ponce Inlet Lighthouse postcard, join us on Saturday, May 18, International Museum Day, when we will be hosting a free (with your museum admission) make-and-take your own postcard workshop throughout the day from 10:30 am until 2:30 pm.



Lighthouse keepers often kept cats both as companions and as a line of defense against pests. Our current lighthouse cat is Nelly, who stands guard over the property and is our staff ambassador. Her postcard says it all.

## APRIL 2019 NL VOLUNTEER ARTICLE

All volunteers at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse take part in a series of training sessions beginning in September and ending in April. Our training in February was all about Daytona's early aviation pioneer Ruth Law. Born in 1887, - the same year the Mosquito (now Ponce) Inlet Lighthouse was first lit; Ruth Law earned her pilot's certificate in 1912, and purchased her first airplane from Orville Wright himself. She spent many years honing her flying skills on the white sands of Daytona where she offered beach goers the thrill of lifetime by taking a ride in her flying machine for \$15. When she wasn't aloft, Ruth and her airplane could often be found inside the wooden hanger she'd had built on the beach near the Clarendon Hotel. Numerous images of Ruth Law, her Wright Model "B" airplane, and her beach front hanger appear throughout the USLHS Airways Division exhibit in the principal keeper's dwelling at the lighthouse.

In addition to thrilling spectators with aerobatic demonstrations and other feats of flight, Ruth spent the late 1910s setting three aviation endurance records, delivering mail, and serving as the US military's first uniformed female pilot as she toured the nation during WWI raising money for the American Red Cross and Liberty Loan drives with exhibition flights. When the war came to an end, the "Queen of the Air" formed "Ruth Law's Flying Circus with her husband and chief airplane mechanic Charles Oliver. The three-plane troupe amazed spectators at state and county fairs by racing against cars, flying through fireworks, and setting altitude and distance records. Ruth herself would climb from the cockpit to stand on the wing while another pilot did the flying during many of these death defying shows. At the peak of her career in 1921, Ruth Law was earning \$9000 per week.

Historic reenactors Alice and Ronald Howell often portray Ruth and her husband Charles Bancroft at local events. Mr. and Mrs. Howell were in attendance during the museum's February training session to talk about



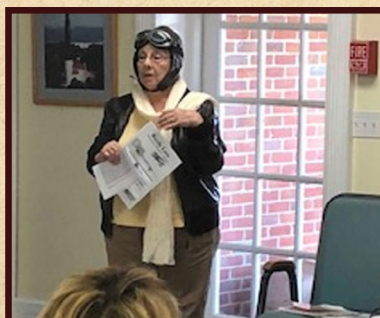
The lighthouse's volunteer corps poses on the back steps of the gift shop following training.



Ruth Law at the controls of her Curtiss Pusher aircraft



1916 advertisement for a Ruth Law flying exhibition at New York's Kingston Fair Grounds



Author Alice Howell depicts Daytona pioneer aviator and "Queen of the Skies" Ruth Law for Ponce Inlet Lighthouse volunteers

the many contributions of Ruth Law and how Daytona played a pivotal role in early aviation history.

Alice discussed how she and Ron's interest in Ruth Law drove them to write a book. Ruth Law: Daytona's Pioneer Aviator, Her Place in Aviation History was published in March of 2010, and is available in paperback form in the lighthouse gift shop. The book chronicles the idea of heavier than air flight as early as the late 1400s when Leonardo da Vinci pondered how man could fly. Da Vinci's detailed drawings inspired future aviators. Alice writes in her book, "Gallant men and women have long dreamed the dreams of flight. Many engineers and inventors laid the groundwork for those who came after." The book follows the flight of men and women up to 1983, when America's first female astronaut Sally Ride was launched into space aboard Space Shuttle Challenger as mission specialist of STS-7; and to 1998, when construction of the International Space Station that began.

Alice and Ron have written many books and are very active within the community. Because of their love for the lighthouse and its history, they still find time to volunteer despite their busy schedule. Ron is one of the uniformed lighthouse keepers who perform weddings at the base of the tower. When asked what they like most about what they do Ron and Alice replied, "Our passion for history and knowledge is a persistent part of our lives and brings us closer together as a couple. We are delighted to share our passion for history with everyone we meet, through our books and presentations."

The Preservation Association is always looking for individuals interested in accepting the challenge and becoming a lighthouse volunteer. Those wishing to participate in our upcoming volunteer training sessions are encouraged to contact Programs Manager Mary Wentzel by email at [mwentzel@ponceinlet.org](mailto:mwentzel@ponceinlet.org) or by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 18 to sign up. You can also learn more about volunteering opportunities online at [www.ponceinlet.org](http://www.ponceinlet.org).

## LIGHTHOUSE HAPPENINGS

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse had a busy winter season. The Association's volunteers were out in force throughout the months of January, February, and March, sharing their love for this important National Historic Landmark. This dedicated group of individuals donated a considerable amount of their personal time facilitating educational activities and workshops on the historic grounds and throughout the local community, learning new information, attending monthly volunteer training sessions, and brushing up



Volunteer Cindy Horn re-enacts the "Tool lady" for girl scouts

on their storytelling skills. The museum staff greatly appreciates these wonderful men and women for their continued service. We could not achieve the Association's ongoing mission of preserving and disseminating the maritime and social history of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse without you. Thank you!

On January 5th, more than 50 young women participated in the museum's semiannual

Girl Scout Day. The winter event provided scouts the opportunity to earn their coveted lighthouse badge by learning about famous women lighthouse keepers and what it was like to live and work at an isolated light station at the turn of the 19th century. Although Ponce Inlet never had a female lighthouse keeper several light stations did; including Maine's Matincus Rock Lighthouse where Abbie Burgess of the children's book *Keep the Lights Burning*, Abbie started her 30 year carrier with the US Light-House Establishment in 1856. In addition to hearing about the life of Mrs. Burgess, the scouts also learned about other influential women in lighthouse and local history including Ida Lewis and others. A great time was definitely had by all!

Lighthouse volunteers hit the road on January 19th to participate in the Museum of Arts and Science's

4th Annual History Con event. History Con is a yearly all-day celebration of Florida history attended by a wide range of individuals who share a passion for our region's rich cultural heritage including volunteer docents, educators, history buffs, traditional craftsmen, museum professions, and the general public. More than 450 people attended this year's event which included reenactors, local authors, informative displays, traveling exhibits, historic demonstrations, hands on workshops and activities, and numerous seminars and lectures focusing on pivotal moments and other important topics related to Florida history. In addition to promoting cultural awareness within the community, events like History Con can provide a museum's professional staff and volunteer corps the rare opportunity to mix and mingle with peers and like-minded individuals from other institutions in a social setting. This past event was no exception. Experiences were shared, ideas were exchanged, and lively conversations were enjoyed by all.



Volunteers Debbie Sobien and Terry Revak talk to children about Mary Potts, inventor of the Potts Iron and Dr Ruth Benerito, chemist and inventor of permanent press

The museum had the honor of welcoming a school group from China on the afternoon of January 28th. Hailing from various regions of their country, the students were excited about visiting Florida's tallest lighthouse. The tour of the lighthouse and museum was arranged by the international tour company Education First. In addition to learning about the history of the Ponce Inlet Light Station and the role of lighthouses in maritime navigation, participants were also given the opportunity to hone their English speaking skills as they followed the museum's knowledgeable tour guides. Each group was accompanied by a professional interpreter who helped



Jackie Mann plays the part of the famous woman lighthouse keeper Ida Lewis for Girl Scout Day participants

the students better understand what was being said by translating the information into their native tongue. Hundreds of photographs were taken, especially of the tower and its uniformed lighthouse keeper. Kids are kids no matter where they are from and the gift shop

proved to be one of the highlights of their day.

The museum hosted its 15th Annual Beach Racing Day event on February 10, 2019. Developed in collaboration with the Legends of Auto Racing Museum, this popular event provides race fans the unique opportunity to examine historic race cars that once ran on the sands of the World's Most Famous Beach and to talk with former owners, drivers, and mechanics who participated in the wild and wooly days of early stock car racing. VIPs in attendance included Buz McKim, historian at the NASCAR Hall of Fame in Charlotte and author of *The NASCAR Vault: An Official History*, and; Eddie Roche, former archives manager for ISC/NASCAR and the author of *Florida Motorsports Retrospective Pictorial*.

The museum followed up Beach Racing Day with its first annual Welcome Race Fans Event on Friday, February 15th. Author and historian William Lazarus was onsite to share his knowledge of auto racing with lighthouse guests during a special presentation focusing on two of his most popular books; *Sands of Time: Celebrating 100 Years of Racing* and *Around the Turn: How stock cars became one of the most popular sports in the United States*. Attendees were amazed to learn how the familiar oval track of modern motor sports was first used in shadow of the lighthouse back in 1936. Stretching south from Ponce Inlet's North Turn Restaurant to the corner of Beach Street approximately one mile to the south, this historic race course straddled South Atlantic Avenue and the white sands of the World's Most Famous Beach and required drivers to master racing on dirt and asphalt to capture the checkered flag.

The beginning of March witnessed lighthouse volunteers reading the museum's favorite children's book *Nelly, the Lighthouse Cat* to hundreds of school students in elementary schools throughout Volusia County as part of the Read Across America program. Now in its 20th year, Read Across America is a nationwide event scheduled



Volunteer historic reenactors Janice Lowry (far left), Cindy Horn (2nd from left), John Mann (3rd from left), and Tana White (far right) have fun in front of the Hiawatha railroad car at the Museum of Arts and Sciences during History Con.



Lighthouse visitors had the opportunity to examine historic race cars that once ran on the beach.



Lighthouse Lead Docent John Mann reads *Nelly, The Lighthouse Cat* to a group of local elementary school students during the Read Across America event.

to coincide with the anniversary of Dr. Sues' birthday that promotes adolescent literacy. The lighthouse and museum has participated in this remarkable program for a number of years. Often accompanied by a volunteer dressed as Nelly, Read Across America has become one of the museum's most popular events. So many schools request it nearly every one of the lighthouse's volunteers is needed to meet the enormous demand.

The Preservation Association would like to offer its sincere appreciation to Vystar Credit Union of Port Orange, FL, for sponsoring this year's Beach Racing Day in addition to several other events in the coming quarter including, Florida Lighthouse Day on April 6th; International Museum Day on May 18th; and Flag Day on June 15th. VyStar joined the Association as a Corporate Member in the beginning of 2018, and has remained a strong advocate of the organization ever since. We can't thank VyStar and its local representative Basilia Brown enough for their continued support and sponsorship. Thank you!

We have a full schedule planned for the spring season. Please refer to the Calendar of Events on page 6 for a full listing of scheduled offerings at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. You may also contact programs manager Mary Wentzel at [mwentzel@ponceinlet.org](mailto:mwentzel@ponceinlet.org) or call (386)761-1821 ext. 18 for more information.

The success of the museum's programs department would not be possible without the help of our dedicated volunteer corps. The Ponce

Inlet Preservation Association is always looking for individuals interested in accepting the challenge and becoming a lighthouse volunteer. Those wishing to participate are encouraged to contact programs manager Mary Wentzel by email at [mwentzel@ponceinlet.org](mailto:mwentzel@ponceinlet.org) or by phone at (386) 761-1821 X 18 to sign up. You can also learn more about volunteering opportunities online at [www.ponceinlet.org](http://www.ponceinlet.org).

# JOIN THE PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

## A GENERAL ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

- Free admission to the museum and lighthouse during regular hours of operation
- 10 percent discount in the museum gift shop and online store
- One subscription to The Light Station quarterly newsletter
- Invitations to special events
- Volunteer opportunities

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

**General** . . . . . \$20

- The benefits listed above for one individual

**Senior** . . . . . \$10

- All privileges of General Membership for one individual 62 years or older

**Student** . . . . . \$10

- All privileges of General Membership for one individual 12 years or older with a valid student identification

**Family** . . . . . \$40

- All privileges of General Membership for the immediate family
- Immediate family is limited to one or two adults and your children under age 18. Grandchildren are not eligible.
- You will be issued one membership card for each parent, and each card will list the names of your children.
- Child under 12 must be accompanied by an adult

**2nd Assistant Keeper** . . . . . \$100

- All privileges of General or Family Membership
- Recognition of your membership in the quarterly newsletters' 2nd Assistant Keeper List

**1st Assistant Keeper** . . . . . \$200

- All privileges of 2nd Assistant Membership
- Two gift General Memberships
- Recognition of your support in the quarterly newsletters' 1st Assistant Keeper List

**Principal Keeper** . . . . . \$500

- All privileges of 1st Assistant Membership
- A personalized guided tour of the Light Station
- Recognition of your support in the quarterly newsletters' Principal Keeper List

**Corporate Lampist** . . . . . \$500

- All privileges of General or Family Membership for up to five company principals
- A personalized guided tour of the Light Station
- Use of the Light Station's conference room for one meeting.
- Recognition of your companies support in the quarterly newsletters' Corporate Lampist List

## FLORIDA DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION NUMBER AND DISCLAIMER:

Registration #: CH137

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.



Please complete the entire form to enroll, or join online at [www.lighthouselocker.org](http://www.lighthouselocker.org).

## Select type of membership:

- General . . . . . \$20
- Senior . . . . . \$10
- Student (submit copy of ID). . . . . \$10
- Family . . . . . \$40

- Gift Membership From: \_\_\_\_\_
- Renewal

- 2nd Assistant Keeper . . . . . \$100
- 1st Assistant Keeper . . . . . \$200
- Principal Keeper . . . . . \$500
- Corporate Lampist . . . . . \$500

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For family memberships, list spouse/partner and all immediate children under eighteen years of age:

Spouse/Partner: \_\_\_\_\_

Children: \_\_\_\_\_

(List any additional names on a separate sheet.)

We will contact 1st Assistant Keeper, Principal Keeper or Corporate Lampist members to obtain gift membership and company principal information.

Membership enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Please charge my: (check one)

- Visa  MasterCard 3-Digit Security

Code: \_\_\_\_\_

CC#: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Or, make check payable to:

Ponce Inlet Lighthouse  
4931 S. Peninsula Dr., Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

**Thank You for Your Generous Support!**

