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Friends of Wood Island Lighthouse

woodislandlighthouse.org

PO Box 26, Biddeford Pool, ME 04006



[Bill Edmunds](#)

photographer

JUNE 2005

Friends of Wood Island Lighthouse Newsletter

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WHO IS THIS?



E-mail your answer to:

Sheri@woodislandlighthouse.org

(be sure to include your name)

Names of those "in the know" will be posted next issue.

From the Executive Committee

The EC reports that before the summer tour season begins, the Friends will replace some of the heavy timbers that make up the lower ramp at the Boathouse. The elements take their toll on the 160 foot ramp that is the means of access to the island. As many who have taken our tours know, the Light Runner actually "beaches" itself on the ramp to discharge passengers. This year we will replace timbers when needed and, once again, scrape the ramp to remove the winter buildup of algae and debris. We hope also to be able to place some algae-resistant decking on the ramp near the water line to provide better footing for our guests.

Our major fundraiser is coming up next month - dont' miss it!

FRESH PAINT DAY

Sunday JULY 10TH

(RAIN DATE Saturday JULY 16TH)

[Click here to find out all about it.](#)



June General Meeting

Keeper Jerry Murray related a humorous view about work and life at Wood Island when he was keeper in the mid 1970's. Jerry's wife Susan shared her beautiful quilts inspired by her life on Wood Island. Daughter Jessica and Grandson came too and enjoyed a trip to Wood Island after the meeting. See the [News](#) section for the story.



Shipwrecks

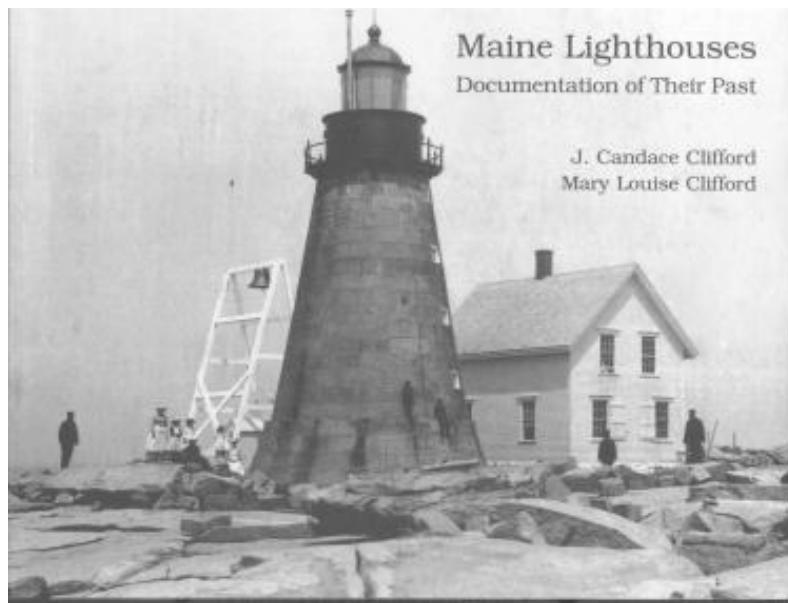
The History Group has spent this winter researching the various shipwrecks in the Wood Island area and Saco Bay. Forty wrecks have been found noted in newspapers and other archives. They tell a tale of a ferocious ocean, frightening weather conditions and heroism by many. Eventually, this material will be published on the Website. A wonderful Shipwreck Map, painted by Iona Desmond - descendent of a Wood Island Keeper, Eben Emerson. will be available for purchase this summer from the Website and other various locations to be announced.

Book Signing

July 9th - 2:30 PM- 4:15PM

Red Geranium, Biddeford Pool

The Friends of Wood Island Lighthouse and the Red Geranium will be co-hosting a book signing, part of the proceeds will benefit the restoration effort. The book will be the recently published, "*Maine Lighthouses - Documentation of Their Past*," by Candace and Mary Clifford. Other books by Candace Clifford will be available also. They are "*Women who Kept the Lights: An illustrated History of Female Lighthouse Keepers*" and "*Nineteenth-Century Lights: Historic Images of American Lighthouses*." Don't miss this opportunity!

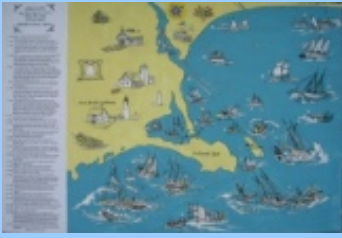


Original 1807 newspaper, *Columbian Centinel* - Boston

Found on E-bay and donated by Sean Murphy.

This newspaper solicits bids for the first Wood Island Lighthouse structure. "The Lighthouse is to be of wood: the form octagon.....the Octagon Pyramid of wood is to be of good oak, or white pine timber. . . and to be 24 feet diameter at the commencement. The height of the pyramid is to be 45' from the stone work to the top of the floor of the lantern , where the diameter is to be 9'."

Shipwreck Map with Legend
(20" x 28")



Small section



[Island Tours](#)

Come enjoy a tour of Wood Island this summer.



Light Runner was designed and built specifically for transporting visitors and supplies from Vines Landing in Biddeford Pool to the Boat Ramp at Wood Island.

Web Team: Sean Murphy, Bill Edmunds and Sheri Poftak
Newsletter Team: Sheri Poftak, Bill Edmunds and contributors



The Friends of Wood Island Lighthouse

is a chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation. It was formed in the Spring of 2003 specifically to preserve and restore the Wood Island Light Station. Please visit our website for information.

www.woodislandlighthouse.org

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