

# Coast Guard did great job on lighthouse

With an unusual degree of community spirit, that should be acknowledged, the U.S. Coast Guard command at Monterey has just completed a major renovation of the Pt. Pinos Light in Pacific Grove.

At an expense of more than \$100,000, the Coast Guard has completely overhauled the lens and its mechanisms and replaced or refurbished all the exterior cupola brass and wrought iron work.

The circular tower leading from the ground floor to the light has fresh paint

inside and out. New shingles are on the building's roof.

Supervising the construction was Chief Warrant Officer Craig Bitler, who took the original Fresnel lens, brought to Pacific Grove from France in the 1850's, and cleaned, repaired, and polished it himself.

Complementing the Coast Guard repairs is the work begun, in the past two weeks, by the local chapter of the National Questers who are painting, finishing, and furnishing the lighthouse liv-

ing quarters with furnishings and decorations from the 1850's.

Bruce Handy of Pebble Beach, who has spent 10 years on weekends guiding visitors through the lighthouse, is back on the job.

The City of Pacific Grove leases the building from the Coast Guard and is responsible for its upkeep and now has a high standard to meet, thanks to the Coast Guard's first class renovation. EC

Pacific Grove Beacon September 9, 1994



**BACK ON HIS REGULAR** weekend schedule, Pt. Pinos Lighthouse Docent Bruce Handy, calls attention to historical points of interest to onlookers Peter and Deborah Byrne of Paso Robles, who visited the lighthouse Sunday September 4 with their son Kevin (hidden from view) and his buddy Graham Shapiro. *Beacon photo*



**WITH REPAIRS** to the lens and cupola exceeding \$100,000, the U.S. Coast Guard's Pt. Pinos Light is back in operation. Visitors are welcome again between 1-4 pm Saturday and Sunday.

*Beacon Photo*