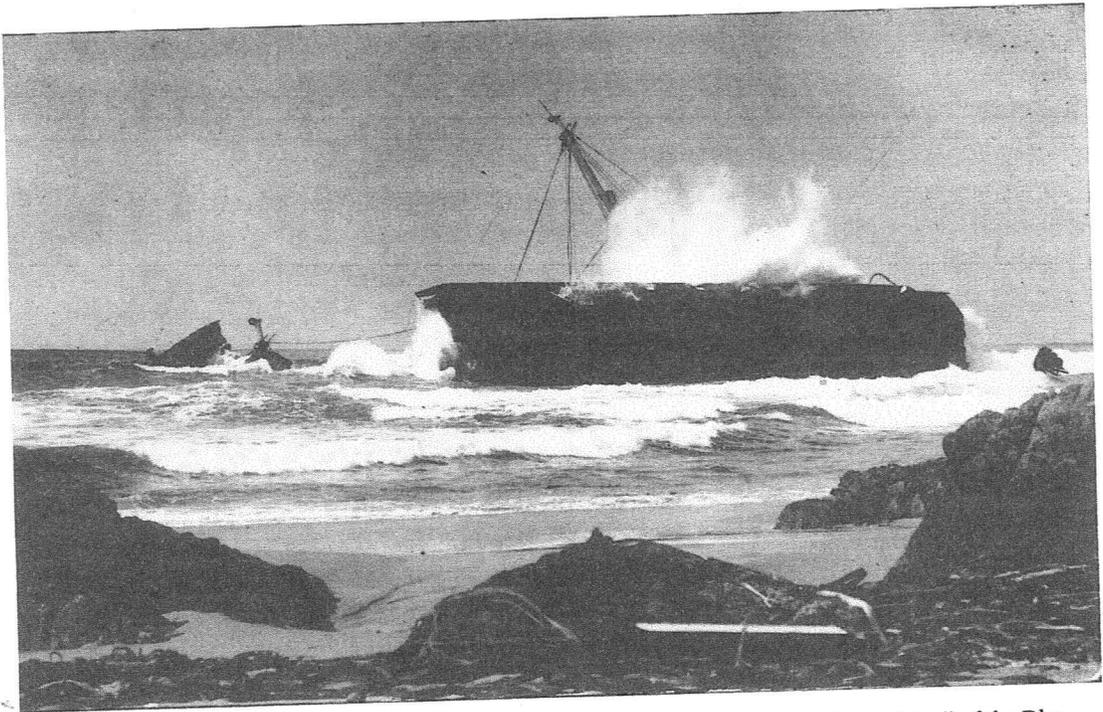


The Questers Help...

The lighthouse opened in 1983 as a museum, but the restoration was moving slowly until docent Bruce Handy spoke to the local chapter of the Questers who decided to adopt the lighthouse project as their own. Led by Shirley Eljenholm and Merrill Leslie, who served as restoration chairpersons, they began an ambitious project to redecorate the parlor, one of the upstairs bedrooms, the



The steel hull of the Dhu gives in to the sea.

watchroom and the bathroom to the Emily Fish period rather than the 1870's. The Questers won a grant of \$250 from the California State Questers organization in 1993. They held a fund-raising event in April of 1994 and won another grant from the State Questers organization in October, this one for \$5500. Eventually the Questers would get another \$3000 from the State Questers and \$2000 from the Monterey Peninsula Volunteer Services.

With this in hand and solid accomplishments already achieved in the parlor, Shirley and her group never looked back. They parlayed a little money and a lot of goodwill into a remodeling of the parlor and the bedroom, the reception area and the bathroom. As the project gained momentum, local people donated furniture and furnishings related to the period and various local craftsmen donated their time to refurbish and renovate the rooms. As the restoration continued, more people came forward, some donating valuable antiques others donating materials at cost and still others volunteering skilled labor for free. Individuals donated money and antiques from their private collection or

Whittaker whose antique glassware brightens the parlor. In the end it became a community project with volunteers donating time, skills, and materials from all over the peninsula. Several local businesses donated labor and materials, including Woolem Painting, Kidwell's, Day Electric, The Homelighter, Lloyd Busby, Dwells Painting, and Kingham of California who restored the secretary desk in the parlor.

The Questers have taken great care with their project, even going so far as to stock the parlor bookcase with titles that a woman the caliber of Emily Fish might have read and a rose window drape pattern that Emily might have ordered.

Emily herself became part of the restoration project. Quester Jean Stumbo diligently researched Emily's life and wrote a concise biography of Emily which is offered for sale at the lighthouse. Once the parlor was finished, support was easier to get for the bedroom, the watch room, the bathroom and the porch and stairways. The Questers still take great care of their exhibits. When mold and mildew threaten, Shirley and others may be found polishing the leather shoes and airing the linens.

LIGHTHOUSE LOG

April 13, 1912: Wind Light SW. Cloudy. Occulting apparatus worked badly, adjusted satisfactorily. (The occulting apparatus gave trouble occasionally going forward, but Emily had learned the secret of making it run and no more entries record 'assist by hand' episodes. JM.)

Emily A. Fish
Principal Keeper

On July 31, 1912, Emily started signing her monthly log page 'E. A. Fish, Principal Keeper. The log provides no clue as to why she did this. No inspection or incident or any other abnormal event occurred during this time so far as the diligent reader of the log can see. JM

March 29, 1912: Wind Strong NW Clear. Mr. Andersen Assistant Supt. and Mr. MacClean came to the station, removed the third order lamp and established a temporary 4th order lamp and a permanent occulting apparatus at night.

March 30, 1912: Wind Fresh SW Clear. Occulting apparatus established at night not working properly, assisted by hand every 30 seconds throughout the night.

March 31, 1912: Wind Fresh SW Clear. Occulting apparatus not satisfactory, after 2:45 a.m. assisted by hand every 7 seconds.

April 1, 1912: Wind Light SW Cloudy. Mr. Miller of the Dept. came to adjust the apparatus.

April 2, 1912: Wind Light SW Cloudy. Clear. Occulting apparatus adjusted, worked satisfactorily.

Emily A. Fish
Principal Keeper

June 25, 1912: Inspected, excellent condition, reflecting the greatest credit on the great efficiency of the keeper.

Comdr. W.A. Moffet, USN.

From left to right, Mickey Donnan, staff docent, Steve Bailey, Director of the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, and Bruce Handy, Docent Emeritus, on the night Bruce was recognized by the Pacific Grove City Council for his 17 years of leadership at the lighthouse. On this night Wayne Wheeler of the U. S. Lighthouse Society also presented Bruce with a special award for service.

plied with an evaluation of the structure. He noted that the east window of bathroom has one of the original windows of lean-to. The clue is the size of muntin and the 6 over 6 sash. Evidently this window was reused when the lean-to was extended after the earthquake. Watkins believes most of the rest of the windows on the ground floor date from the 20th century, while the extra ground floor window in the south wall is characteristic of the 1890's.

Watkins asserted that the doors in the south room were original, three simple four-panel doors with cast iron box locks and white porcelain knobs, all characteristic of the 1850's. The doors to the bedrooms on the second floor were original too. The porch on the other hand, had a Georgian facade 'wildly out of keeping with the simple character of the building.' Watkins suggests that the 'enclosure of the front hall entrance to the stairway by partition and door, and the building of a side entrance front vestibule all attest to efforts to control strong, chimney-like drafts in the lighthouse. These doubtless not only caused discomfort, but also may have

sion or at least made it flicker and smoke. This, at last, may be the answer to Emily's problems with smoking lamps. Watkins notes the top opening of the cistern which stored rainwater in a closet-like structure in the north east room (parlor). It is probable then that the cistern continued down into the basement.

Watkins suggested that the kitchen lean-to be restored as a 1870's kitchen, that the north room be furnished as an 1870 lighthouse parlor and the south room as an exhibit room to explain lights and lighthouses, how they operated and the history of this lighthouse. The kitchen was to be restored as an 1870's kitchen and the basement reserved for various exhibits relating to lens, lights, lifesaving. Watkins recommended that the south bedroom be restored to a 1940-50's Coast Guard room. He perhaps went too far with the recommendation that the bathroom be torn out and replaced by a privy! Watkins concludes that a slow careful working out of the project has 'the power to be a fascinating and interesting and thoroughly attractive house museum of an unusual sort. And so it has become.



To — Letters Editor
Monterey County Herald
P O Box 271
Monterey, CA 93942

From — Mrs. Ray Stumbo
3084 Sloat Rd.
Pebble Beach, CA 93953

Concerning — Recent events in Pacific Grove

Three cheers for all the wonderful volunteers who had exhibits on the Point Pinos, Point Sur, Pigeon Point Light Station, Coast Guard and Questers on Saturday, Jan. 31. All these plus lectures and crafts for children made up a very informative and fun filled Lighthouse Family Day at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.

On Sunday afternoon the dedicated docents of Point Pinos had a great 154th birthday celebration to commemorate the first lighting of the beacon on Feb.1, 1855. They were assisted in this festive event by the Pacific Grove Heritage Society and the Lighthouse Preservation Committee. The president of Questers, Mrs. Richard Stott, presented a check for \$2000 for lighthouse repairs. The Questers initiated and have been involved in the lighthouse restoration since 1995. Community spirit is alive and well in Pacific Grove!

2 Documents

2-89

Questers

gift of \$2000

for preservation

Mrs. Ray Stumbo
Mrs. Ray Stumbo



Adobe Questers #375
Teri Stott 624-9048
4000 Rio Road #3
Carmel, CA 93923

February 1, 2009

To the Lighthouse Preservation Committee

Adobe Questers wishes to have our birthday gift of \$2000 to the Point Pinos Lighthouse Restoration Fund be used to help restore the floors of Point Pinos. We have always contributed to preserving the structural interior and continue to keep our interest there.

Thank you for your efforts in saving Pacific Grove's coastal landmark. As small projects come before you please let us know if Adobe Questers can help.

Teri Stott

Teri Stott
Adobe Questers
President 2008/2009

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