

Crooked River Lighthouse

Carrabelle Lighthouse Association

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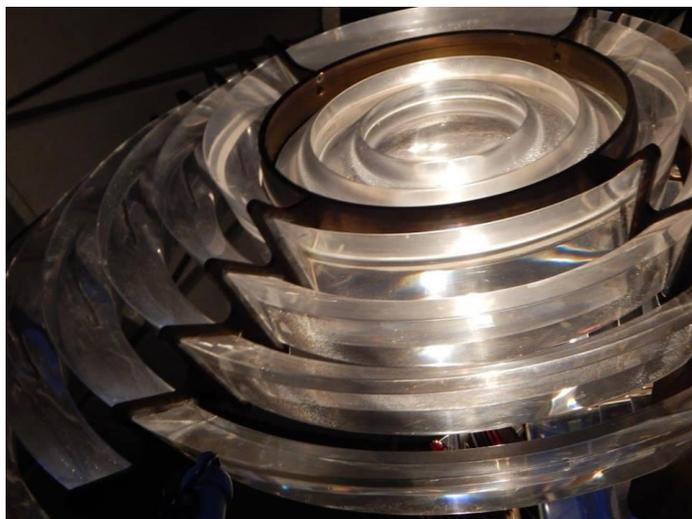
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Blue Moon Climbs at Crooked River

2015 was quite a year for moon gazing. We had a good turnout for the July Blue Moon climb and in August, we had more Blue Moon climbers. John Fort sent us some wonderful pictures he took that night.



There was a lot of excitement about the Blood Moon in September, but unfortunately the clouds blocked the view at the time of the eclipse.



Photos by John Fort

2016 Panhandle Lighthouse Challenge Has Been Cancelled

We are very sorry to report that the 2016 Panhandle Lighthouse Challenge will not take place after all. We had a few meetings to try to make it happen, but putting on such a big event takes a lot of time and money. Grant funds that had been available before are no longer there for us. Also, each lighthouse organization has a limited number of volunteers, and they can only do so much.

Both St. Marks and Cape San Blas are in the midst of major renovation projects. At Crooked River Lighthouse we are working hard to raise funds to rebuild our burned out playground, develop our new walking path and plan for the repainting of our light.

Carrabella Playground Rebuilding Fund

Although the winter season has been slow so far, with fewer visitors, the donations coming in to the Carrabella rebuilding fund have been steadily growing. We have several fund-raising efforts going at this time, beginning with the on-line GoFundMe account (<https://www.gofundme.com/wkrhm8>) set up by Delores Hardin right after the disaster. To date, the online donations come to about \$1,300. Sales of tickets for the quilt raffle, featuring the beautiful "bowtie" pattern quilt donated by the Lanark Quilters Guild have slowed down, but are still coming in. So far, that total is \$445. By far the most consistent donations are coming from the "Coins for Carrabella" community donation jars placed by Kathleen Oman at restaurants and stores for "spare change". These efforts have raised, so far close to \$900. Proceeds from Lantern Fest and individual donations from businesses, CLA members and the community have brought our Carrabella Fund balance up to about \$6,000.

Time to renew your membership.

Please use the attached form to renew your membership in the Carrabelle Lighthouse Assn. You can also include a donation for the Carrabella fund if you like. Please consider becoming one of our volunteers. We need help and we would love to have you become part of our volunteer family.

Camp Gordon Johnston Days

The celebration of Camp Gordon Johnston Days has been moved back to March 11-12 this year. It will mark the beginning of a wide assortment of spring activities on the Forgotten Coast.

The Carrabelle Riverfront Festival is scheduled for the weekend of April 22-23. That is just a couple of months away, so mark your calendars now.

Lantern Making Workshops

Our workshops for 2015 included tissue paper lanterns like the ones we did in 2014



and some "wrought iron" lanterns made with black painted wine boxes and white foam sheeting.



While folks were inside making small lanterns, some



of us were on the porch working on big ones. This is the lighthouse lantern creator (Delores) working on the replica of St. Marks Lighthouse. You can see a video of all four lighthouse lanterns with their lights blinking on our Facebook page.

Here are the almost finished Forgotten Coast lighthouse lanterns. Crooked River and St. Marks are at the right;- Cape San Blas and Cape St. George below.



The lighthouse lanterns are on display in our keepers house museum until we can find a good storage location for them.

The lighthouse lanterns are made from tomato cages and several different recycled materials.

Lantern Fest 2015



The TCC Dancers were a great help with setting up for Lantern Fest. We did not have as many volunteers as usual due to competing events. They worked on stage setup, hanging lights and lanterns, and moving tables and chairs around.



Kathy Swaggerty, Steve Allen and Joan Matey lighting up the pavilion for the folks from the Pearle who served up some great food for our visitors.



The "Kids Karnival" was a very busy place! We had lots of games and prizes for kids large and small.



Blacksmith on the left, candle dipping on the right and a wizard in the middle...and fun all around.



The Beacon Bistro served up lots of sweet treats along with coffee and cocoa. We had cakes, cookies, pies, brownies, pasties and of course Sally Crown's famous cupcakes.



Missy sold a lot of the Glo Batons that were donated by the TCC Dancers. They use them in their night-

time dance routines. Joan also sold some at the Christmas boat parade event. We love them! Thank you TCC Dancers!



Our friends from Theater With A Mission performed two humorous plays on a stage provided by the City of Carrabelle, as we no longer have our beloved ship Carrabella. As you can see by their big banner on the stage, Duke Energy was a generous sponsor of the event.



The TCC Dancers also added a new "shadow dance" routine to their performance this year. They are so innovative. We just love them!



Killavil provided some wonderful music both on and off the stage.



It took a while, but the moon finally showed its face.

