

# Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society

Newsletter  
2007

Come Sea Us.....

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[www.district.yarmouth.ns.ca](http://www.district.yarmouth.ns.ca) (click on Cape Forchu Light Station)

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**Easter Sunrise  
Service**  
April 8th 6:53am  
At the Yarmouth Light

All Welcome!

## Check Us Out

### We're on the web

[www.district.yarmouth.ns.ca](http://www.district.yarmouth.ns.ca)  
(Click on Cape Forchu Light  
Station)

View breath taking slide shows,  
contact information, the history of  
the Light, The Mug Up Tea Room  
menu and keep up to date on our  
fun filled events!

## The Cape Forchu Light Station still shining.....



The light in the original tower at the Cape Forchu Light Station was lit on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 1840. The first lighting apparatus was a kerosene lamp and had to be watched carefully for it could easily go out.

Today, the Yarmouth Light still shines and is a unique tourist destination! It is viewed by thousands in the summer months as they enter Nova Scotia from the United States. Locals continue to roam the site with the same admiration.

Through a property lease from the Municipality of Yarmouth, Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society operate the Historical Landmark and visitation site. It is with the dedication of the Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society and a spirited community that the light still shines...

To compliment the natural beauty of Cape Forchu Light Station, the 19 acre site is also home to a museum, over 90 feet of spectacular tower, picnic areas, parking facilities, a gift shop, and new in 2006, the Mug Up Tea Room. Enjoy the view of fishing boats, the Cat Ferry passing in and out of the Yarmouth harbour or become mesmerized by the beauty of the sea.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Samuel de Champlain discovered this forked tongue of land. Now it is your turn to come out and see what the excitement is all about!!!



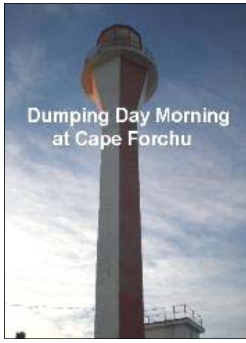
Denise Nickerson  
Operations Manager  
yarlighthouse@eastlink.ca

The Friends of the Light and the Municipality of Yarmouth are pleased to welcome Denise Nickerson as Operations Manager of the Cape Forchu Light Station.

Having lived in Yarmouth most of her life, Denise has first hand knowledge and is well prepared to present the beauty of scenic Cape Forchu. Having graduated from Hospitality & Food Service Management, Kingstec Campus Kentville, Denise has previous experience as a Food & Beverage and Sales and Conference Manager. Denise has lived and worked in Banff Alberta and spent a year in Mexico as an exchange student. Being tri-lingual, Denise can communicate in French, English, and Spanish, which comes in handy welcoming visitors to beautiful Cape Forchu Light Station.

Please contact Denise for all bookings and enquiries.

## Dumping Day at the Light....The support was unbelievable!



On Monday, November 27th, 2006, a couple hundred people gathered at the Yarmouth Light to support and bless the lobster fleet as it departed for the first day of the lucrative lobster fishing season. At 5:45am, Roger Nickerson, a local retired fisherman blessed the lobster fleet live on radio CJLS and on a hand held VHS for all to hear.

A continental breakfast was served in the Mug Up Tea room, starting at 5:00am. Cost was a donation of choice to the Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society. Guests were served bread pudding with a warm brown sugar sauce, fresh made biscuits & jams, assorted muffins, coffee & tea...all homemade!

This year, we partnered with the Lobster Calender Committee and Julie Grandy, Tourism Development officer, to help promote the event...and it worked! It was the largest turn out ever. Join us again in 2007!



## Summer 2006

Wow, what a summer! On May 27<sup>th</sup>, the **Mug Up** tea room opened its doors. The fresh lobster sandwich was a huge success with both the visitors and locals. Travel writers from Massachusetts even wrote about them. The 20 seat cozy tea room, adorned with beautiful paintings by Tootsie Emin, allowed tourists and locals to mingle. Tourists appreciated the local visitors taking the time to answer their questions about living in the area.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, **Natal Day** celebrations in conjunction with the Yarmouth County Museum included a lunch in the tea room. After the site tour and a home cooked lunch, our President, Nancy Knowles sounded the fog horn for all to hear.

After a few delays due to rain, on July 30<sup>th</sup>, we held our **Grand Opening**. The local band, Blue Harmony, played for the guests as they enjoyed cake and barbecue. The Red Hatters brightened the event with their distinct red and purple attire.

Also on July 30th, guests were invited to come and take pictures at the light that included a shot of an ice plant in the picture. **Ice Plant Sunday** has become a tradition due to the popularity of the ice plants. They are unique and for reasons unknown, bloom with full force and bright colors despite the salty air.



On August 5<sup>th</sup>, the Cape Forchu Light Station was the back drop for Dustin & Shirley Saulnier's **Wedding** pictures. From the wedding party frolicking in the grass to the bride and groom with endless seas as a back ground, the photographer had multiple photo opportunities to choose from.

**Appreciation day** was held on August 27<sup>th</sup>. On this day, Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society invited and thanked all who contributed in the continued success of the Cape Forchu Light. Sandwiches, sweets, cake and beverages were served outside on our many picnic tables.

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual **Lights along the Shore Lighthouse Festival** took place September 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>. With the addition of the tea room, we decided to host a pancake breakfast for the 3 mornings consisting of pancakes, sausages and a beverage for \$5.00. The turn out was overwhelming.

In addition to the exciting events held this past summer, the Province of Nova Scotia approved funding for a **"Welcome to Nova Scotia"** sign to be erected on the

fog horn building. Because the Cape Forchu light house is the first point of entry into Canada, the Friends felt that there had never been anything highly visible to welcome them. The sign also became the back ground to many pictures.



During these cold winter months, we are preparing for another exciting summer in **2007!** Our calendar of events will include old time favorites like Easter Sunrise Service, Grand parents Day and Dumping Day, but we are also including more exciting fun filled days. Put us in your *"favorite"* websites list and visit us often for events and updates.

[www.district.yarmouth.ns.ca](http://www.district.yarmouth.ns.ca) [click on Cape Forchu Light Station]

## Volunteering....Get Involved!!!



Think about it: do you give up some of your time to help others? Then you are volunteering! People think if you are enjoying yourself you can't be volunteering. **WRONG!** Volunteering can be great fun! Volunteers are the driving force behind the success and survival of the Cape Forchu Light station. At the Yarmouth Light, there are many volunteering opportunities that allow you to do as much or little as you choose. Think of what volunteering can do for you? Volunteering is a superb way of learning new skills, having fun, meeting interesting people, learning about where you live and best of all.... great exercise. If you'd like to get involved or find out more about volunteering we'd love to hear from you!



Volunteer **Paul LeFave** of Salmon River working on one of the many projects he has done for us. Paul and his wife, Christine, have given several hundred hours to the Friends of the Light.... **THANK YOU TO BOTH!**

The "shell lady", **Christine LeFave**, on her daily walks around the Coastline of Saint Mary's Bay, collects literally thousands of sea shells. These are taken to the museum at the Light and every day visitors from around the world take these shells home. Now, shells from Nova Scotia are all over the world..a little bit of NS to share with our world wide visitors!



**SHELLS AROUND THE WORLD!**

# Mug Up Tea Room



On May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006, the Cape Forchu Lighthouse opened its doors for the season with a new addition, the **Mug Up Tea room**. The Mug up, often referred to as a drink, served much more than that! The 20 seat tea room in the light keepers' original dining room, welcomed tourists and many locals who enjoyed all the

home made delights that our cook, Gail Nickerson, prepared from scratch. Our home made bread pudding with warm brown sugar sauce along with our pumpkin chocolate chip muffins became just as popular as our fresh lobster sandwich served with potato chips. Countless people preferred to have us "pack their lunch" so that they could relax and listen to the surf at one of our many picnic tables overlooking endless seas....



*We look forward to serving you "by the sea" in 2007!*

To book an event, please contact Denise at 742-4522 or Email: yarlighthouse@eastlink.ca



*Tea*



*By The*



*Sea*

## Museum



The Light keeper's house, located on top of the hill, is also home to a museum, unique gift shop and welcoming centre. Open from late May to mid October, Friends of the Yarmouth Light and staff will show you a wealth of history

in pictures, guided tours and memorabilia. Guided tours after hours and after the season welcomed upon request. Ample parking for vehicles and bus tours. Admission is a donation.

In 2003, our Light Station was designated by the Province of NS as a registered **Heritage Property!**

## The Mug Up

### The Sou'Wester

Fresh baked muffin & coffee or tea \$2.95

### The Lite House Lunch

Soup & Sandwich of the Day  
Coffee/Tea \$6.95

### The Mug Up Special

Nova Scotia Fresh Lobster Sandwich  
Coffee/Tea \$12.50

### Tea By The Sea

A spot of tea  
Homemade dessert of the day \$4.95

### The Cape Forchu "Tea for Two"

A Pot of Tea  
Homemade dessert of the day \$9.95

### Cape's Soup du Jour

Cup \$2.95 Bowl \$3.95

Friends of the Light Sandwich of the Day \$3.50

Gail's Homemade Dessert of the Day \$3.50

Fresh Baked Muffin \$1.50

### Beverages

Coffee/Tea \$1.50

Specialty Tea \$1.65

Soft Drink \$1.50

Bottled Water \$1.50

Bottled Juice \$1.75

Ask your server for your lunch "to go"

2006 Menu

Prices and Menu subject to change

A special thank you to Tootsie Emin for the wonderful paintings displayed in the tea room and for our unique menu!

## Gift Shop



We at the Yarmouth Lighthouse Gift Shop would like to thank you for supporting us and the lighthouse during 2006, our 11th year of operation. Among our new products for 2006 were Cape Forchu playing cards and the first ever

postcard featuring both the new and old lighthouse. We look forward to seeing you in 2007 to see our expanding selection of Cape Forchu Light Station custom gifts, located both at the Gift shop and up at the Museum, as well as a wide variety of jewelry, books, clothing, snacks and edible gifts and much more!

# President's Report



Nancy Knowles  
President of The Friends of the  
Light Society

Difficult to believe that *Friends of the Light* have been in the picture for about 15 years! It was a bit daunting back in the early 90's to arrive one morning to find the gate closed and locked and handed a key!

The Yarmouth County Tourist Association, under Linda Deveau, had a steering committee in place – Linda Campbell, Mauritta Fevens, Joan Thibault, Dawn-Marie Skjelmoose, Joan Jenkins, Margaret Sweeney and myself. We started organizing ourselves with the question, "where do we go from here?"

Words could never be enough to thank Craig Harding and Gert Sweeney from the Cape who were asked by the committee to "take the reins." They worked with the Canadian Coast Guard to ensure that the Cape Forchu site would always remain available for local folks and visitors forever!

After many, many volunteer hours by Craig and Gert, the Municipality of Yarmouth came aboard and in 2001, the Cape Forchu Light Station became the first Lighthouse to be turned over to a non-profit organization – The Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society.

The site currently closes the end of October and opens in late May. We still, however, have activities throughout the off season. These include visits by schools, familiarization tours, Easter Sunday sunrise service and Lobster Dumping Day that includes a light breakfast and the blessing of the lobster fleet.

Summer is non stop! Some activities include weddings, Ice Plant Sunday, Grand parents Day, Family Day, Volunteer Appreciation Day, Lights along the shore breakfast etc, etc. Site visitors this past year were in excess of 30,000.

This past summer, the Mug Up tea room was a welcome addition to the site and proved to be popular with both the locals and visitors alike. The tea room seats 20 and has a menu of a daily home made soup, sandwich, dessert, muffin and fresh lobster sandwich. The staff at the site this past year was six strong, most effectively led by our Operations Manager, Denise Nickerson.

The Friends of the Light board of directors hold monthly meetings and are presently working with Denise and various committees on the 2007 season. Volunteers are a vital part of the organization and we would like to encourage anyone with the spare time and interest to consider contributing. Please contact Denise for further information.

We are all looking ahead to our best and busiest year yet in 2007.....

*Nancy Knowles*

With the purchase or renewal of your 2007 membership, receive Tea for 2.

## Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society New Membership or Renewal

Membership renewals are due each April and expire after 1 year

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

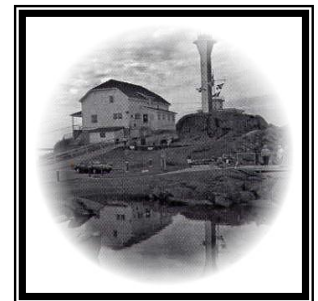
### Membership Type:

- Individual (\$8)
- Couple (\$15)
- Family of 4 (\$20)
- Family of 5 or more (\$25)
- Corporate (\$100)

Corporate sponsors are welcome to display brochures in our museum

Please make cheques payable to  
**Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society**  
and send to:

77C Starrs Rd., Suite 105  
Yarmouth, Co., Nova Scotia  
B5A 2T6



Your donation keeps  
the Light shining!

Official receipt for  
income tax  
purposes issued