

# WLA-- Board of Directors 2008

## **President—Elinor DeWire**

Seabeck, WA

email: [president@walightkeepers.com](mailto:president@walightkeepers.com)

Elinor is an author and freelance educator involved in lighthouse work for more than thirty years. She serves in an advisory capacity to numerous lighthouse boards, and chairs the education initiative for the American Lighthouse Coordinating Committee. She serves on the Washington Lighthouse License Plate Fund Committee. She has authored eleven books and more than one-hundred articles about lighthouses/lightships and is the editor of *The Focal Point*. Elinor holds an M.A. in education from the University of Connecticut and taught in museums and public schools for many years. Currently, she teaches at Olympic College. Elinor is the founder of WLA and is serving her second term as president.

## **Vice President—Bruce Robie**

Puyallup, WA

email: [webphotog@walightkeepers.com](mailto:webphotog@walightkeepers.com)

Bruce is retired from the Air Force and works as a Defense Planning Manager for the Western Air Defense Sector at McChord AFB. He loves lighthouses, especially photographing them, and writes the “Where is Bruce Robie Now?” column for *The Focal Point*. Bruce designed and maintains the WLA website at [www.walightkeepers.com](http://www.walightkeepers.com), and he is the race director for the annual “Run for the Light” fun run/walk in Westport, found on the web at [www.Run4theLight.com](http://www.Run4theLight.com). Bruce holds an A.A. in Space Operations Technology. Bruce served his first term as WLA board member at large from April 2005—April 2008 and was elected vice president in September 2007.

## **Secretary—Jonathan DeWire**

Seabeck, WA

email: [secretary@walightkeepers.com](mailto:secretary@walightkeepers.com)

Jonathan is a retired Navy officer currently employed by the Naval Undersea Warfare Center at Keyport. He has been an energetic friend of lighthouses for more than thirty years and contributed a number of pictures to lighthouse books. He records WLA meeting minutes, assists with elections, and lends support in other administrative ways. Jon’s most important duty occurs every December when he serves as the WLA “Lighthouse Santa” and visits lighthouses around the state to greet children of all ages. Jonathan holds a B.S. in sociology from Regents College. He is serving his second term as secretary.

## **Treasurer—Kathy Mellecker**

Renton, WA

email: [treasurer@walightkeepers.com](mailto:treasurer@walightkeepers.com)

Kathy works in administration for Providence Elderplace in Seattle. She has a great love for all lighthouses, but especially those in the Evergreen State. She successfully prepared WLA’s state and federal nonprofit applications and does PR work for our group. She also organizes the annual WLA membership banquet. Kathy moved to Washington from Tampa, Florida in 2003 where she was active in the Florida Lighthouse Association and the Tampa Bay Harbour Lights Collectors Club. She is a graduate of Clark Community College. Kathy is serving her second term as treasurer.

### **Merchandiser—Bob Tellier**

Port Orchard, WA

email: [election@walightkeepers.com](mailto:election@walightkeepers.com)

Bob works for Electric Boat in Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. He is a member of several lighthouse groups, including the Avery Point Lighthouse Society, and was the merchandiser for the New England Lighthouse Lovers until he moved to Washington in 2003. Bob now handles merchandising for WLA. He also managed WLA's 2007 election of officers. Bob has been a board member since WLA was founded in April 2005.

### **Board Member at Large—Laura Rust**

Grayland, WA

Laura grew up in Seattle. She has her captain's license, and loves all things marine and nautical. She donates hundreds of hours each year to nonprofit organizations and serves on the board of directors for the tall ships *Lady Washington* and *Hawaiian Chieftain*. Laura is a past coordinator for the Grays Harbor Lighthouse and is writing a book on the lighthouse. She owns Bay West Emporium in Westport. She joined the board in 2007.

### **Consultant—Gloria Wahlin**

Clinton, WA

Email: [GloriaW@wsu.edu](mailto:GloriaW@wsu.edu)

Gloria, originally from California, is a past vice president of WLA. She is the Lighthouse Coordinator at Admiralty Head Lighthouse and worked with WSU to get a lighthouse license plate in Washington, establishing a fund for lighthouse preservation. Gloria organized Washington's first lighthouse conference in 2002 and hosted WLA's first membership banquet at Admiralty Head in 2003. A former firefighter, Gloria holds a B>S. in Range Management from University of Montana. She resigned from the WLA board in April 2008 but continues to assist with events and lend her expertise.

### **Consultant—Janet Orso**

Coupeville, WA

Janet is a native of Baltimore, MD and works as a graphics designer for the *Everett Herald*. She is a volunteer artist for a number of nonprofit groups, including Beachwatchers and WLA. She created the beautiful watercolor image on the Washington Lighthouse License Plate and did the graphic designs for the WLA brochure and the WLA "Great Lighthouse Hunt" map. Janet is a WSU Beachwatcher at Admiralty Head Lighthouse and an avid bicyclist.

### **Membership Chair—Darlene Cook**

Lynnwood, WA

Email—[membership@walightkeepers.com](mailto:membership@walightkeepers.com)

Darlene, a native of Georgia, is active with numerous lighthouse groups and is a volunteer at Mukilteo Lighthouse. She has visited more than 300 lighthouses in the United States and Canada, and her photos of lighthouses have appeared in several books and publications. She assists with WLA's education initiative and has presented workshops on educating youth about lighthouse. Darlene works for the City of Mountlake Terrace Recreation and Parks Department as their Youth Programmer and is certified as a state trainer for early childhood education classes.