

Eric Colby, Editor
THE BEACON
P.O. Box 603
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

October 18, 1996

Dear Mr. Colby

KEEPER KID VISITS POINT PINOS LIGHTHOUSE

Point Pinos Lighthouse Headkeeper's son George Henderson visited with the Lighthouse Docents on October 14, 1996. George's family lived in the lighthouse from 1939-1954. George related about life in the Lighthouse during World War II. The Ocean Boulevard gates were locked at each side of the property. The Army Coast Artillery had dug in gun emplacements around the Lighthouse point. Three poorly camouflaged wooden dummy gun emplacements were located on the north side of the cemetery to fool the enemy. The light operated except during blackouts. George occupied the south second floor bed room. The north bedroom was the Coast Artillery Command Post. The present parlor was the living room while George's parents occupied the south first floor room as their bed room. The family later moved into the 6 room bungalow built adjacent to the lighthouse. He started Monterey High School while living at the Point Sur Lightstation and graduated in 1939. He went to Salinas Junior College (Hartnell) in 1940 and to work for Pacific Gas and Electric in 1941. George joined the 42nd Medical Training Corp, at San Antonio, Texas in 1942. He trained in Camp Barkley, Texas A & M, and New Mexico A & M. After graduating, as a medical technician, he administered to injured troops returning from Europe aboard the converted troop ships Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary. The only Lighthouse ghost that George remembers, is the voice coming down from the second floor during their move in, it turned out to be the previous Keeper Peter Nelson's parrot. Their black terrier was named Rex, Polly would drive the dog nuts by constantly calling "Here Rex, Here Rex". The Lighthouse Docents attending the reunion included, James Bas, Donald Dean, Myrtle Glynn, Barbara Goodwin, Ruth Harman, Betty Anne McCarthy, Catherine Terpen, and Lee Worth. The Docents will be pleased to meet with you at the Lighthouse, open Thursdays thru Sundays, from 1 to 4. (FREE) If you would like more information about group tours or joining the spring docent class please call the Pacific Grove Museum, 408 648-3116

Sincerely

Donald E. Dean, Lighthouse Docent
Enc. Photo 3x5 #