



Lighting the Lamp

A keeper reaches up to light an incandescent oil vapor lamp, lighting the flame which will be magnified by the giant Fresnel lenses behind him to be seen by ships twenty miles out at sea. Before electric lamps and beacons, many different types of oil lamps were installed in American lighthouses to find the best and the brightest flame that would burn throughout the long nights.

John Havel, Outer Banks Lighthouse Society, 2013