



League City Historical Society League City, Texas

P.O. Box 1642 League City, Texas 77574 ~ 281-554-2994 ~ leaguecityhistory.org ~ Greg Nenninger Webmaster

April 2012 *Newsletter* Kathie Nenninger Editor knenninger@verizon.net

April 26th Meeting



Our April meeting will be a special treat. Our speaker will be *Pepper Coffey*. Ms. Coffey is a high school social studies teacher at Clear View Education Center,

a school for academically at risk youth, in Webster, Texas. She has been coming to Kemah since her great aunt and uncle, Lorae and Jimmie Walker, purchased Jimmie Walker's Edgewater Restaurant in the 1950s. She moved to Lazy Bend when she was fifteen years old and has lived in Kemah ever since. She is one of the founding board members and the current President of the Kemah Historical Society. She wrote the book, *Kemah*, to preserve Kemah's unique history and honor its colorful citizens.

She will also have books available for purchase and autograph. They are \$23.80 including tax.

Our meeting will be held for this one event at the Kemah Schoolhouse Museum/Visitor Center on the corner of 6th Street and Bradford. The actual address is 604 Bradford Kemah, Texas 77565. We will meet for social time at 6:45 and begin the meeting at 7 pm. Directions: from FM 518/FM 2094, turn left onto 146. Just past the Jack in the Box, turn right onto 6th Street. Go to Bradford Street which is just before the Kemah Lighthouse District sign. Turn right and you are there. The building is on the right. Ample parking is on the South side.

April Meeting Special Information

April 26 LCHS Meeting
Pepper Coffey
Author of *Kemah*

*Note Location change

***Kemah Schoolhouse Museum/Visitor Center
604 Bradford
Kemah, Texas 77565***

6:45pm Social ~ 7:00pm Meeting

from the President...

Ronnie Richards



After a very mild winter, spring is upon us and with all the rain we've had everything is blooming beautifully including the oak tree pollen. It's also nearing election time and I urge everyone to become fully informed and vote for the candidate of your choice. You can even vote by mail if you are 65 or over. All the voting information is available online from the Galveston County Clerk's office at www.co.galveston.tx.us/county_clerk/.

This month our meeting is going to be hosted by the Kemah Historical Society at their building, the Kemah Schoolhouse Museum/Visitor Center, on the corner of 6th Street and Bradford in the Lighthouse District in Kemah. Pepper Coffey will tell us about the book she recently authored about the history of Kemah. We expect several members of the Kemah Historical Society to join us.

If you haven't been to the  Facebook page for League City Historical Society please stop in for a visit and be sure to 'Like' us and share with your friends. Another great resource is the web site at www.LeagueCityHistory.org.

Water, water, everywhere but not a drop to drink. I'm sure everyone has heard this rhyme before but I'm hearing more every day about the challenges we face in having enough water supply. Please do your part and conserve water. There's one thing for sure. In the future, we will probably be paying more for our water as demand grows. See you at the meeting Thursday night April 26th.



Meeting Minutes

...Diane Kerkhove

President Ronnie Richards called the March meeting to order at the school house museum.

Joanna Dawson gave an update on the Ghirardi property. After the Ghirardi Oak is moved, the Ghirardi house will be moved from Heritage Park to property next to the tree.

Birds Galore will take place 6 to 7:30 p.m. on April 12.

Coordinators are needed to chair the Living History Dinner.

Last month 21 groups of children visited the museum.

Evelyn Garland introduced Saundra Whiddon, speaker for the evening. She spoke on Irish and Scotch Irish and the ripple they made in history. They were considered barefooted immigrants, poor but resilient and good workers. Our country produced 22 presidents of this background. Irish were Catholic and Scotch were of Ulster and Protestant.

Jeff Hansen and Deborah Gammon provided refreshments.



MusNews

Catharin Lewis, Director / Curator

As we look back at March we had 548 visitors; held 20 schoolhouse sessions; brought in \$1,455 in program fees and \$1,612.33 in gift shop sales plus \$53 walk-in donations. We had \$3,269.80 in expenses. Our visitors came from Austin, Montgomery, Katy, Webster, Houston, Galveston, Baytown, Kingwood, Nassau Bay and League City. The groups consisted of two adult groups, first, third and fourth graders, several mixed age groups and both Boy and Girl Scouts.

We have several items added to our collection this month and we want to thank Bert Schroder for four books entitled, *Graded Lessons in Spelling*, *McGuffey's Fifth Eclectic Reader*, *McGuffey's Second Eclectic Reader* and two copies of *McGuffey's Third Eclectic Readers*. All of these items are greatly appreciated and we look forward to sharing them with our future visitors.

Kate Jordan, Richard Lewis and I all attended the recent Texas Association of Museums Annual Meeting in San Antonio. The convention was held right on the River Walk and tied into the theme, "Museums in the Currents - Navigating a River of Change". Keynote speaker, Phil Hardberger, former Mayor of City of San Antonio highlighted the theme with his comparison of the River and a museum. We also heard from Ford Bell,

President of the American Association of Museums with an update on the legislative climate in Washington, D. C. While there we had three days of networking with colleagues, visiting museums and attending training sessions. The session I really treasured was presented by Candace Matelic on *Integrating Creativity and Innovation into your Workplace*. She incorporated hands-on activities, audience involvement and a wonderful film clip on creativity. We will be working new ideas learned into upcoming events at the museum. Watch for the new programs on our website.

A **Museum Work-Day** is planned for Saturday, May 19th starting at 8:30am. We are looking for people to wash windows, haul dirt, weed gardens, trim bushes and shrubs, and clean behind the Barn Museum. We will also be assembling the Fire Hose Building with a team of volunteers from League City United Methodist Church. Plan now to come and help where you are needed... at the Museum!

There is still time to register for our **Natural Treasures Summer Day Camp**. We will be combining natural history lessons with artifacts, games and crafts from the turn of the century. The camp is being offered June 4th - 7th and July 16 - 19 from 9am to 4pm. Look for our flyer in the newsletter about more details or call the museum to register for the event.



We thank Helen Mooty and Catharin Lewis for this month's refreshments.



Volunteers are still needed to bring refreshments to our meetings for three months and helpers are needed for another three months.

Please consider volunteering to bring a plate of cookies. Too busy? Volunteer to bring the drinks. Every hand helps and we can't continue to rely on the same four generous members. Contact our hospitality chairman, Doris Teets at dteets@verizon.net to volunteer.

LCMS OFFICERS & BOARD

Ronnie Richards	President
Kevin Burke	Vice-President
Diana Dornak	Treasurer
Diane Kerkhove	Secretary
Kathy Weisskopf	Corresponding Secretary
Jeff Hansen	Director
Evelyn Garland	Director
Richard Lewis	Director
Doug McKee	Director
Helen Hodges	Director
Joanna Sharp Dawson	Immediate Past President
Catharin Lewis	Museum Director



Bird Identification Walk

Saturday, April 28, from 8:00am - 10:00am

Come out to the Dr. Ned & Fay Dudney Clear Creek Nature Center (1220 Egret Bay Blvd.) to learn more about the history and identification of local birds. This guided walk begins at the trailhead next to the parking lot at 8:00am and will be led by George Regmund, Senior Biologist at the Armand Bayou Nature Center.

George will teach participants bird identification skills and techniques. He will also discuss life histories and habits as birds are observed on the walk. Please bring binoculars and dress for the weather. Walk may be cancelled if inclement weather.

Natural History & Conservation Walk

Saturday, May 12, from 8:00am - 10:00am

Come out to the Dr. Ned & Fay Dudney Clear Creek Nature Center (1220 Egret Bay Blvd.) to learn more about the natural history and conservation of the Nature Center. This guided walk begins at the trailhead next to the parking lot at 8:00am and will be led by Woody Woodrow, of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Walk may be cancelled if inclement weather.

For more information please contact the Parks Recreation Office at (281) 554-1185, or send an email to john.orsag@leaguecity.com.

**NEW DIRECTORY...
NEARING COMPLETION**

The new directory for 2012-2013 is nearly complete. Catharin Lewis has worked diligently to sell ads and get the member information completed. To complete the member information she needs to have information of all current members. Many members have already sent in their renewal form and dues check. (Thank you!) With the exception of Life Members, or anyone who joined after October 1, 2011, or who has already paid..... then your dues are due. You can either cut out the renewal form and send it with a check to the PO Box 1642, LC 77573 or bring the form and a check to the next meeting (Thurs. Apr. 26) which is the deadline date for getting names in the directory. Catharin will be printing soon after that date. Thanks for your help in getting our new directory as up to date as possible.



*League City Historical Society
2012 Dues Form*

*Become a Supporting member
of the
League City Historical Society*

Thank You for being a member of the League City Historical Society. It is time to renew membership for 2012. Dues for various types of memberships are as listed below.

To renew your membership, choose the membership level that is best for you, Clip and complete the form and mail to *LCHS, P. O. Box 1642, League City, TX 77574*. You may also bring renewal and check to the next meeting.

- \$25 Single Membership
- \$40 Family Membership
- \$15 Senior Citizen Membership
- \$50 Organization Membership
- \$250 Life Membership

Please update your membership information.

Name: _____

(If Family Membership, please include names of family members.)

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home Phone _____

Cell Phone: _____

email address: _____

- Check if your name, address or email has changed recently.
- Check if you would like to receive your newsletter, meeting minutes and/or meeting notices by email, to help save on postage.
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Natural History Night

...Kate Jordan, Education Director

Next month our Natural History Nights event will be about plants and flowers. The schoolhouse will serve as a platform for sharing poems and stories about plants from our collection's lesson books. Visitors will then write their own haiku poems about plants, harkening back to the strong Japanese history of the Clear Lake area. We will finish out the evening planting native plants such as passion fruit vines, scarlet sage plants, and coneflowers that will attract butterflies, hummingbirds, and all other sorts of beneficial critters into backyard gardens. The event will be a great way to round out our Spring series of Natural History Nights. Due to visitor demand we will be repeating these sessions during the day in the summer so that busy families can attend if they had trouble getting here at night. In the Fall we will have new topics and activities to explore science and nature through the lens of the turn of the century classroom. Come out and join us at our next event!

NATURAL HISTORY NIGHTS

at the

West Bay Common School Children's Museum's

Combining lessons from the 1890s with hands-on activities, your family will discover the natural world. Each evening includes games, stories, and crafts that you can take home for your backyard. Programs are designed for all ages, and for your family to enjoy together.

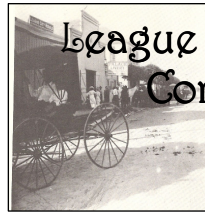
May 10th - Flowers (plant a variety of native plants to attract nature to your backyard)

7:00pm-8:30pm

Cost: \$5 per person; children 3 and under are free

The West Bay Common School Children's Museum
210 N. Kansas Ave
League City, TX 77573
(281) 554-2994

www.oneroomschoolhouse.org



League City Historic District Commission Report

LCHS Rep. to the LCHDC
...Fay Dudney

The Historic District Commission has a scheduled meeting Thursday, Apr. 19th. We will be discussing proposed amendments to the RNC, Residential Neighborhood Conservation Overlay, and will hold a Public Hearing on renovation to an existing home on the corner of Satsuma and So. Illinois Street. The meeting will be held in Council Chambers at 6:00 pm. The public is always welcome to come.

Upcoming LCHS Speakers...

May 31	Doug Weiskopf	Houston Railroads
June 28	Ed Cotham, Jr.	Battle of Galveston Bay
Aug. 30	Dr. David Gracy	Bill Daniels
Sept. 27	Ralph Stenzel	Hitchcock Naval Air Station
Nov. 15	Louis Aulbach/ Linda Gorski	Fort Logan, Houston

Natural Treasure Day Camps

June 4 - 7

July 16 - 19

9am - 4pm

Ages 6 - 12 \$125 per camper per week

Bring own lunch and snacks



West Bay Common School Children's Museum
210 North Kansas League City, Texas
281-554-2994
www.oneroomschoolhouse.org