



League City Historical Society League City, Texas



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

APRIL 2018

LCHS Newsletter

Catharin Lewis, Interim Editor

You are invited to join us.

Our Speaker Michael Bailey

April 26th Meeting



“Small Things Matter: Personal Equipment in WWI”

During its time, World War I was known as the Great War; little did humanity know that it would be the first of several major conflicts during the twentieth century. 2018 marks the centennial commemoration of the Armistice that ended WWI. During the War, battlefield conditions and technology changed so quickly that armies often could not keep up. Historian Michael Bailey will introduce the audience to many of the small items that soldiers had to carry and use to ensure their survival.

Michael Bailey has worked in the history field for more than 30 years, in archaeology, libraries, historical sites, and museums. After earning BAs in History and Anthropology, he obtained a graduate certificate from George Washington University and completed a curatorial program at Rutgers University. Michael now makes his home in Brazoria County, where he works in the museum field as a curator and participates with several re-enactment organizations which strive to preserve and present Texas History. For his work with Texas history, he was commissioned an Admiral in the Texas Navy by the Governor of Texas and awarded an Honorary Membership in the Sons of the Republic of Texas.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 28

Museum Open House

“Remembering Our Teachers”

May 31

Mark Lardas,

Author

“Texas Shipwrecks”

June 28

Abra Schnur

“Oral Histories – How to collect them and what to do after that”

July 19

Living History Dinner

Fund Raiser Event

August 30

Melodey Hauch and Deborah Gammon

“Fairview Cemetery”

SAVE THESE DATES!

We Welcome Our New Members

Charles & Joyce Emmitte

Judy Monthy

Linda & Kirby McKillip

This Saturday!

April 21

Be 8 - 2

SURE

TO

COME





Meeting Minutes Susan Pierce, Secretary

Historical Society Meeting Minutes Susan Pierce, Secretary

March 22, 2018

Katie Hake welcomed everyone to the meeting. Catharin Lewis reminded us that the Society will have a yard sale on April 21. Catharin and Richard will hold any donations made until the day of the sale. Volunteers are needed for this event. A Museum Open House is scheduled for April 28.

Catharin recognized two of her assistants, Stephanie Dorsey and Beverly Morrison.

Steph McDougal introduced our speaker, Ruth Ann Rugg, Director of Special Projects for the Texas Association of Museums ("TAM"), whose topic was the challenges and the future of the small museum. Our Barn Museum/Schoolhouse is one of 12 groups selected to participate in TAM's project called "Finding Alternative Futures: Sustainability Through Coaching."

The Institute of Museum and Life Services ("IMLS") is the only federal group, other than endowments, to donate money to museums. Ms. Rugg recently spoke with legislators about not cutting the funding given to museums, and was successful. She pointed out that grants are a necessary funding activity to keep a museum afloat, but grants do not ensure sustainability of a museum.

There are 34,000 museums nationwide, half of which are history museums, and there are 1,800 museums in Texas. Plus there are thousands of historical preservation organizations throughout the country. With so many organizations vying for funding and community resources, competition is tough for museum attendance and funding. Ms. Rugg said history organizations are subject to life cycles. The generation that founds a museum may make tremendous progress, even with few resources, but it often proves difficult to pass this work onto the next generation. By the third generation, if a museum hasn't fully engaged the community, the museum is doomed.

Ms. Rugg listed her Top Ten Situations That Threaten History Museums:

1. Site is a stand-alone historic house or history museum.
2. Historic site or structure has little or no historical integrity of place.
3. The organization has no public support or significant funding.
4. Museum interpretation lacks context or connection to broad historical themes.
5. The organization is dominated by the founding director or board.
6. Isolation from community, other organizations, and school district.
7. Current demographics are not reflected in museum collection, exhibits, or programs.



LCHS 2017 Board Members

Doug McKee
President

Mike Peterson
Vice President

Katie Benoit Hake
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Susan Pierce
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Melodey Hauch
Director

Diana Dornak
Director

Ronnie Richards
Director

Catharin Lewis
Museum Curator/Director



**Historical Society Meeting
Minutes
(continued from page 2)**

8. The organization has expanded beyond its capability to sustain itself.
9. Museum carries the burden of community's expectation to boost tourism.
10. Organization is "one of many," and indistinguishable from other historical groups by the general public.

She also gave her Three Goals for Museums:

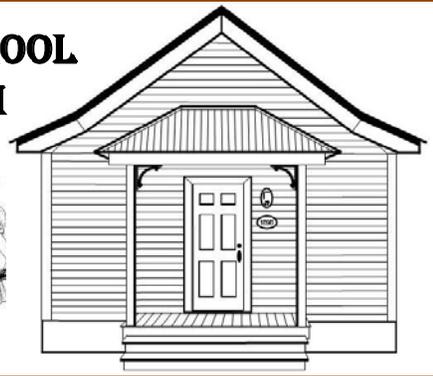
1. Collaboration: look at community relationships; what potential partnerships do you see?
2. Better Boards: look at Board leadership, both in person and practice; is Board maximizing its potential?
3. Better Planning: look at planning habits; it's more than planning month-by-month; what does the next 3 years hold for the museum?

Ms. Rugg certainly gave us a lot to think about.

Meeting adjourned.

**WEST BAY COMMON SCHOOL
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

**Curator's Corner
Catharin Lewis**



Blessings come in many ways. School children greet us with excitement and lots of energy. Our adult visitors greet us with warm smiles and stories of the past and share their knowledge of today's schools. Each of these are small blessings to know that our time shared that day will touch memories for them to treasure in the future.

We held 250 schoolhouse sessions this year and have had 1062 visitors. Our visitors in March came from Cypress, Houston, Friendswood, Kingwood, and League City. We continue to serve schools, churches, private schools, homeschools, scouts and adults. They all come to learn about how a day in school in 1898 compares to their schools of today. With ink on their fingers, sounds of the player piano resounding in their ears and the excitement of playing with the hoop and stick; the groups return home with new stories to share about their day at the one room schoolhouse in League City.

Special blessing came with two grants with projects for our participation. One from Mid-America Arts Alliance for the Engage Project, a three year program that will soon end this May. The other from the Texas Association of Museums

Finding Alternative Futures (FAF) project that begins now and continues through May of next year. We thank them for their support of small history museums through these programs of consultants and special support.

We also want to thank Melissa Markle for her recent donation of 1923 edition of Lincoln Logs in its original box. These are greatly appreciated and will be on display soon. Donations are blessings in a different way.

Six members of the society will be attending Texas Association of Museums Annual meeting here in Houston this year, April 18 – 21st. They will be meeting with others in the museum field who are also working on the FAF project and will be learning other things as well.

We continue to work on the collection and files to keep things up to date. Plans for the next Open House is set for April 28 for teachers in Clear Creek School District. If members could donate pretzels, cookies or lemonade, your help would be a blessing also. Anyone who can volunteer that day for two hours, please contact me at the museum 281-554-2994. Thank you in advance for your support in this project.





League City Historic Commission Report

Steph McDougal

At its monthly meeting on March 18, 2018, the League City Historic Commission approved one Certificate of Appropriateness application for alterations to an existing property in the historic district and provided comments to the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding fencing at another historic district address. The height, materials, and transparency of fences are regulated by the Residential Neighborhood Conservation zoning overlay. The Historic Commission expects that those regulations will among the ordinance items to be reviewed when the City takes up revisions to the historic preservation ordinance, hopefully later this year. Anyone who is planning to construct a new fence or change an existing one should contact the City Planning Department for more information.

The City's historic resources survey project is still in progress. City planning staff are still in the process of reviewing the draft report and hope to have the draft posted for public review before the April 19, 2018, Historic Commission meeting. We expect that there will be ample time for public comment on the report and the resulting recommendations once it's posted. The recommendations are scheduled to be presented to the Commission for consideration and possible approval at our May 17 meeting. If you have questions, please contact Kris Carpenter (City planning department) at kris.carpenter@leaguecitytx.gov or 281-554-1098.

“Be happy with what you have, while you are working for what you want”. Helen Keller



West Bay Common School Children's Museum

One - Room Schoolhouse

*“Remembering Our Teachers
of the Past and the Present”*

MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE

Join us for Music, Refreshments
and Teacher Gift Bags



1894 Clear Creek School

April 28, 2018

10:00 – 4:00

Located at 210 North Kansas
League City, TX 77573

The League City Historical Society

is having a fund raiser

“YARD SALE”

Saturday April 21st
1518 East Walker Street
8am to 2pm

Come on April 21st

“you might find a treasure that someone else is letting go”.

*We could use your **help Friday...Noon to when we are done... help price and set up.** We welcome the extra hands to make the day more fun.* Come and see for yourself.

“Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something.”



Darryl Krogman,
Chairman

HAVE YOU JOINED... The League City Historical Society?

What do you get for your LCHS Membership?

Time to make new friends that are interested in history, architecture, storytelling, quilting, museums, reenactments....all the things that you enjoy.
Time to support the local history and one room schoolhouse museum.
Time to learn new things with others.

What does LCHS get from you joining?

New friends to share in promoting interest in the community.
New Friends to share in involvement in our community!
New Friends to share in making history come alive to children.

Think about joining a committee, helping out with a special project or becoming a volunteer behind the scenes of a local history museum. This makes it more meaningful to you as you share your time and special talents with us.

Fill out the form on the next page and join us now.



*“Everyone you will ever meet,
knows something that you don’t.” - Bill Nye*

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!!!



Dues Form League City Historical Society

Thank you for being a member of the League City Historical Society. It is time to renew membership for 2018. The various types of memberships with the associated dues are listed below.

To renew your membership, select the membership level that is best for you, complete the form below and **mail to : LCHS P. O. Box 1642, League City, Texas 77574.**

You may also bring the form and check to the next meeting or drop it off at the Schoolhouse Museum.

CATEGORY

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student / Active Military | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (60 and over) | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple | \$35 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single (Individual | \$35 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Patron | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership | \$400 |

BUSINESS CATEGORY

- | | |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Member | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Partner | \$200 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Leader | \$300 |

Please update your membership information here.

Name: _____
(if family Membership, please include names of family members)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email address: _____

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

Please Note: This membership covers you until January 2019.