



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

February 2016 Newsletter

Kathie Nenninger Editor knenninger@verizon.net

Calendar of Events

February 25

"League City History"
Caris Brown, Helen Hall Library
Local History Librarian and
Archivist

March 31

"The 1900 Storm in Words & Photos"
Andrew Coleman, Galveston
Historical Foundation Historian
and Digital Projects &
Interpretation

April 28

"Texas Railroads"
Ellen Ferrill, Curator Galveston
Railroad Museum – "Texas
Railroads"

May 26

"Sally B Wallace Preservation Awards"
Jami Durham, Galveston Historical
Property Research

June 30

"Getting on the Right Track to Finding Your Ancestors"
Sue Kaufman, Clayton Library
Center for Genealogical Research,
Houston

July – No Meeting

August 25

"The Crew Left Behind" A report of Jean Laffite's crew and their descendants who remained in Galveston and the Bay Area after their captain sailed away.
Lou Graves MacBeth – Laffite
Society of Galveston

September 29

"Galveston County Ghosts"
Dash Beardsley, Ghost Tours of
Galveston

October 27

TBA

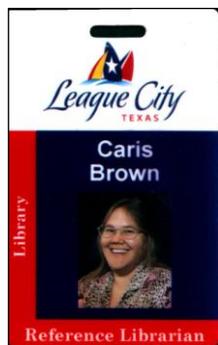
November 17

"The History of the Catholic Church in Galveston County"
Lisa May, Archivist, Archdiocese
of Houston

December – No meeting

February 25th Speaker

Our February speaker, Caris Brown, will be discussing our rich local heritage in her presentation "League City History".



Caris received her B.A. in history from the University of Houston in 1999. She continued her education at the University of Texas at Austin and received her Masters in Library and Information Science, with a concentration in archival studies, in 2002.

After graduation, she got a job as an archivist with History Associates Incorporated. HAI is a Washington D.C. area company that provides customized consulting services in historical research and writing, litigation research, and archives and records management.

While with the company Ms. Brown completed projects for:

- The Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum,
- The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- The National Library of Medicine, History of Medicine Division
- Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia
- The National Institutes of Health, Office of the Director, and
- The U.S. Library of Congress, Geography and Maps Division

Ms. Brown has worked at League City's Helen Hall Library as a Local History and Reference Librarian since early 2008.

The League City Historical Society meets at the Bus Barn next to the West Bay Common School Children's Museum 210 Kansas Street, League City ~ 6:45pm Social ~ 7:00pm Meeting

Helen Hall Library Happenings

- On Saturday February 20th from 1:00pm -2pm there will be a wonderful program entitled "Saving Your Family History".
- Caris Brown will also be presenting "History Of League City" at the Helen Hall Library on Monday March 7th at 6:30pm

LCHS 2016 Board Members



- Doug McKee
President
- Mike Peterson
Vice President
- Diana Dornak
Treasurer
- Susan Pierce
Secretary
- Phyllis White
Corresponding Secretary
- Helen Hodges
Director
- Richard Lewis
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- Daryl Krogman
Director
- Melodey Hauch
Director
- Katie Benoit Hake
Director
- Doris Teets
Director
- Ronnie Richards
Director
- Catharin Lewis
Museum Curator/Director



Please keep the following members in your thoughts:

Pat Dawson during his recovery

Fay Dudney during her recovery

We mourn the passing of Mary Alice Rice



Meeting Minutes

Susan Pierce, Secretary

January 28, 2016 Meeting

President Doug McKee welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked everyone for the record-breaking events we had in 2015 and announced Ronnie Richards and Elizabeth Quigley are now Directors. Our new Vice President is Mike Peterson. The Society participated in the City's time-capsule project. We've had a change in the structure of our dues, as shown in January's newsletter. This change in dues will be considered in 3 months' time for a vote of the members. Richard Lewis announced that the final inspection has been made on the outdoor classroom. In memory of Richard's twin brother, John, who worked so hard for the Society, one of the benches will bear a brass plaque with his name. If you want to have someone's name inscribed on a brass plaque placed the back of one of the benches, contact Doug or Richard. Three benches are still available.

Richard introduced our guest speaker, Peggy Dillard from the Rosenberg Library, Galveston. The Rosenberg Library is one of the oldest, continually-operating libraries in the country and houses the Texas Historical Society's archives. Ms. Dillard gave us a tutorial of the library's portal. Among other things, this site has Federal government's census results, immigration records, newspapers and directories from all over the country, and more. The library still has lots of printed material and a museum containing art painted by Texas artists. The website for the library is www.rosenberg-library.org. Tours are available of the library and museum.

Meeting adjourned.



MEMBERSHIP DUES NEWS

The Board of Directors of our Historical Society recently appointed a committee to review the current membership dues structure and research the dues of other organizations similar to ours. The committee's objective was to bring membership dues in line with our costs that have increased every year and to offer members more options to financially support the Society. The Membership Dues Committee consisted of Doug McKee our President, Catharin Lewis, our Museum Director/Curator and One Room School Director, Helen Hodges, director, and Ronnie Richards, Immediate Past President and director.

The committee met and developed a new dues structure, which after many years of remaining unchanged, included a small increase necessitated by continuing cost increases. In addition, new membership levels were added to allow members and businesses to support our organization at higher levels if they desired. The Board of Directors approved the following Membership Dues schedule for 2016 beginning April 28th:

CATEGORY

Student/Active Military	\$20
Senior (60 and over)	\$25
Senior Couple	\$35
Single (Individual)	\$35
Family	\$50
Supporting Patron	\$100
Life Membership	\$400

BUSINESS CATEGORY

Business Member	\$100
Business Partner	\$200
Business Leader	\$300

Please find the current Membership form attached at the end of this newsletter.

Curator's Corner

...Catharin Lewis, Director/Curator

A major clean-up is in progress at the museum while so few programs are on the calendar so far. January brought in 95 visitors while we took inventory, wrote year-end reports and did general cleaning. Now, a team of volunteers is cleaning out the files of unnecessary papers to make room for new growth. Another team has begun painting the schoolhouse, outhouse and icehouse. The much needed yard work will follow to prepare for the spring programs. If you have some time and could share your talents, please join us on any given day to work. A completion deadline is set for March 1st. There are still windows to be washed, dusting and vacuuming, and general cleaning of everything. We could use your help or just stop by and boost our progress with praise. Volunteers need all kinds of perks.

March 5th and 6th we are a highlighted spot on the Houston Symphony League Bay Area Home Tour whose mission is to promote music appreciation and enrichment and raise funds for their educational programs. Both days, the museum will be open from noon to 5pm. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door on the days of the event if you want to support this mission. However, I am still **looking for two or three more volunteers to help** me at the museum as greeters and traffic control. If you have some time to help, please call me. We would love your support in this community venture.

We again want to thank Lynora Linkenhoker for her recent donation of a wedding dress. The early 1900 wedding gown is in wonderful condition and has been well cared for all these years. The dress has special significance since it belonged to her grandmother who married William Derrick. We are so delighted to have this added to our collection as a piece of League City History.

I want to thank once again all my volunteers for their help and support at the museum. We are truly blessed with their talents.

Did you know that ...?

By LCDR Joyce Zongrone, USN (Ret.)



Bronze ingot from the Cape Gelidonya shipwreck, about 1200 BC, on display in the Museum of Underwater Archaeology at Bodrum Castle, Turkey. Photo Courtesy of the Museum

Did you know that maritime archaeology, as a discipline, spans a short period of time, just over 50 years? The remoteness of the sea bed and the challenges in observing an underwater environment, create major obstacles.

Humans' fascination with the undersea may have begun with the Assyrians in the latter half of the 8th century BC. Archaeologists unearthed relief carvings depicting Assyrian soldiers crossing rivers using inflated goatskin floats. Aristotle recorded that Alexander the Great went down in a diving bell in 325 BC. Roman free divers, who salvaged cargo from a ship wreck off the south of France, were also used to erect and destroy underwater barricades during the more than 500-year span of the Roman Empire, from the 1st century BC through the 4th century AD.

The invention of the aqualung in the 1940s opened underwater diving to adventurers like Jacques Cousteau. As a result, several shipwrecks were discovered, but their archaeological significance was overlooked until 1960, when a young archaeologist from South Carolina, George Bass, teamed up with a journalist from Maine, Peter Throckmorton. Together they investigated a 3,000 year-old Bronze Age shipwreck at Cape Gelidonya in Turkey.

Bass proved that underwater archaeology could be executed to the same standards as on land. Cape Gelidonya was the first ancient shipwreck to be dug in its entirety from the seabed by archaeologists. Dating to around 1200 B.C., the vessel was most likely the possession of a Cypriot or Syrian metal smith. The wreckage yielded more than a ton of ingots, scrap bronze tools and weapons.

Today's technology now allows us to view the treasures of ancient civilizations and modern shipwrecks with the click of a mouse.



2016 League City Historical Society

Dues Form good until April 28, 2016

Dues for various types of memberships are as listed below.

Choose the membership level that is best for you.
Complete the form below and mail it with your check.

**Mail to: League City Historical Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 1642
League City, Texas 77574**

- \$25 Single Membership
- \$40 Family Membership
- \$15 Senior Citizen Membership (65 years old and older)
- \$50 Organization Membership
- \$250 Life Membership

Note: If you have paid your dues in October 2010 or later, you are current for the year 2011.

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.