January 27th Meeting

We are fortunate to have as our January speaker, Seabrook neighbor and professional art photographer, Ruth Burke. Ruth will be previewing her recently released pictorial book, Seabrook. Her images have been featured in national and regional books and magazines such as *Conde Nast Traveler*, *Texas Highways*, *Metropolitan Home*, *Bay Runner* and *Gulfscapes*.

Calendar

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<th>January 27, 2011</th>
<th>LCHS Meeting</th>
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<tr>
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<td>West Bay Common School Children’s Museum</td>
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<td>210 Kansas Street, League City</td>
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<td>Social 6:45pm Meeting 7:00pm</td>
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| February 24, 2011 | LCHS Meeting |

from the president…

Ronnie Richards

The Society is looking forward to another great year in 2011 with many events already penciled in on the calendar. Our first meeting is set for Thursday, January 27th at the School House Museum. Our speaker will be Ruth Burke author of *Seabrook*, a recently released pictorial history of our neighboring city across the lake. Ruth has been preserving the history of Seabrook with her photographs since 1978. Her images have been featured in numerous publications and are part of many private art collections. Her coauthor for this undertaking is Don Holbrook. He attended area schools and served on the bicentennial committee and as the parks board chairman. Holbrook is currently an elected city councilman.

As a final note, it was with great sadness and reflection, we mourn the passing of our beloved Monsignor Cargill from St. Mary’s Catholic Church. He left a mark on many lives including many, such as myself, who are not of the Catholic faith. I recall Monsignor Cargill as a new young priest delivering my high school graduation Baccalaureate service when I graduated from Clear Creek many years ago. He will be remembered.
November 28th
Meeting Minutes
Sherry Frankovich

Kevin Burke, Vice President, opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests.

Diana Dornak talked about the publicity of the Historical Home Tour which will be on December 11.

Bettie Moss planted the last plant. Joanna Dawson says she will donate the hoses needed.

Jeff Hansen mentioned the Holiday in the Park, where we need members to work the booth on December 5-6.

Catharin Lewis was very busy with school groups. Scout groups come at night. She had an old doll donated.

Tom Dawson was the speaker, who told us of his one year experience at one room schoolhouse in Southeast Kansas. He lived that year with his grandparents in Schnook, Kansas. There were 15 students attending the Long Mound School. Tom and a girl were in the first grade.

Kevin conducted the business meeting. We elected the Officers of the Board. They are:

President-Ronnie Richards
Vice-President-Kevin Burke
Secretary-Diane Kerkhove
Corresponding Secretary-Kathy Weisskopf
Treasurer-Diana Dornak

These were unanimously elected by all that were present.

Kevin adjourned the meeting.

We opened 2010 with a new artifact storage area and then concentrated during the year to reorganize the collection, photograph and store the artifacts in a more spacious facility. We made a lot of progress in that direction and we will continue this year as more things continue to arrive. We now have over 3500 items in our collection and many people continue to donate objects or share their collections for temporary exhibits. Anyone wishing to donate items may call or bring these artifacts to the Museum.

We always look forward to schoolhouse visitors and many came last year. In December, we had more than 200 visitors, held eleven sessions and had six groups come from Missouri City, various areas of Houston and League City. Last year we had close to four thousand visitors and brought in $13,350 in program fees. This year we look forward to increasing the numbers of visitors to the schoolhouse program and have other special events planned through the school year. Many classes are now calling or registering on-line for spring classes.

Our gift shop has expanded in stock over the years of operation and last year we brought in $5,380 in sales. We now have 2010 Historic Homes Tour note card sets, corn husk doll kits, rag doll kits and toy train engines. To help boost sales for this year we are planning some special promotions. Notices are being prepared for the Spring Class registrations.

Our many thanks always go to our volunteers. Without their many hours of service, much of the daily operations would not be made possible. Thank you - Bertha Adams, Tommy Randolph, Barbara Vermillion, Kathie Nenninger, Jennifer and Alan Yang, Alex Thompson, Jesse Waters, Betty Lewis, Sherry Frankovich, Mike Conwell, Bettie Moss, George & Kathie Weisskopf, Diana Dornak, Richard and Catharin Lewis. Many thanks to our contract teachers also who shared with visitors the experience of a day at school in the 1890’s. Thank you – Catherine Gill, Sarah Eubanks, Kate Jordon, Geoffrey Hauch, Sherry Frankovich, and Catharin Lewis.

We really want to thank Houston Endowment, Barrios Technology, Ralph Shipp, and the Lunar Rendezvous Organization for their generous funding in support of our schoolhouse program. We appreciate community involvement in making our Museum a success.

Work while the day lasts. Imitate the good. Diligence insures success. Not how much but how well. Never give up. You can conquer if you will. These timely mottoes or resolutions will begin a new year for our work at the Museum. We look forward to many new faces visiting and joining in the work behind the scenes. Plan now. Come and be a part of this on-going living history. We would love to share it with you.

New Year’s Resolutions are like the early schoolroom mottoes used as the focus of morning handwriting exercises. Many early teachers put up a different motto each week and had the children practice writing it. These included such phrases as: Do one thing at a time, What you do, do thoroughly. A tree is known by its fruit, As we sow, so shall we reap. He liveth long who liveth well, and Be gentle, be courteous. Like these mottoes, we try to make resolutions for the year to guide us in some direction.
The League City Historic District Commission met at 6 pm in Council Chambers November 10, 2010.

Wes Morrison, Staff Liaison, and Tony Allender, Planning and Land Development Manager, presented for commission review, a proposed format of the new design standards more detailed characteristics of the Architectural Design styles of properties and landscaping within the HD.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2010.

December 7, 2010

The League City Historic District Commission members approved a request to construct a new roof on an existing residential structure at 221 Michigan.

Wes Morrison, City of League City Staff Liaison to the Historic District, and Tony Allender, Planning and Land Management Director, briefed the commission on the proposed amendments to the sign ordinance scheduled for presentation to City Council during the first meeting in January 2011.

The Preservation Plan sign ordinance requirements will prevail as listed in the Plan. Additionally, businesses in the HD may use portable sandwich board or “A” frame signs during business hours in approved areas.

The commission reviewed the League City Architectural Design Guidelines Draft as presented by Mr. Morrison and Mr. Allender, including photographs of homes depicting different styles of architecture existing in the Historic District today.

Phase 2 of our ongoing landscape project is scheduled to resume in March. We plan to dig trenches in order to bury hoses for a watering system at the schoolhouse. We welcome all volunteers especially those with this expertise. Please call the schoolhouse if you can help with this project.

We want to extend a big Thank You to Diana Dornak for once again chairing and coordinating our very successful Historic Homes Tour in December. This event was truly enjoyed by over 200 visitors to the homes in our Historic District. We also thank the homeowners who opened up their homes to the public and those who served as docents.

Pictured above is a group of concerned citizens who met on January 19, 2011 at the West Bay Common School Children’s Museum to discuss the future of the Italian Heritage Museum/Ghirardi House that was donated to League City by Rita Ghirardi.

League City Historical Society member, Ed Linck, proudly unveils the Texas Historical Commission marker at the dedication ceremony of St. Mary Mission Church in conjunction with its 100th anniversary.