



League City Historical Society League City, Texas

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

January 2012

Newsletter

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January 26, 2012 Meeting

'Share the Friendship'

Come visit and share memories of the holidays and our past events with fellow League City Historical Society members while enjoying refreshments

Calendar



January 26	LCHS Meeting "Share the Friendship" West Bay Common School Children's Museum 210 Kansas Street, League City 6:45pm social 7:00pm meeting
February 23	LCHS Meeting
March 29	LCHS Meeting
April 26	LCHS Meeting



We thank Doris Teets, Ernie Randall and Kathie Nenninger for this month's refreshments.

The members of the LCHS extend condolences to Betty Lewis on the passing of her beloved husband, Walter, a long time member of the LCHS. Mr. Lewis was the father of Director Richard Lewis. Our thoughts and prayers are with Betty, Richard, Catharin and family.

from the President...

Ronnie Richards



It's hard to believe that 2012 is upon us and it is League City's 50th Anniversary as an incorporated city. There will be a lot going on as part of this Golden Anniversary Celebration and the League City Historical Society will continue to work to support our goals of growing its network of members and friends while preserving the area's history and teaching others about our rich history. As a member we encourage you to help accomplish those goals by telling your friends and families about us and our activities and volunteering to participate in the various projects. One of the easiest ways to help is to provide email addresses of your friends and family that might like to receive a copy of this newsletter by email. Simply send their email by hitting Reply to our newsletter editor and they will be added.

The Historical Homes Tour December 10th was another big success. The entire Historical District came alive as nearly two hundred took home tours or volunteered to act as docents at one of the historic tour sites. Thanks to all who participated and especially our Committee Co-Chairs Diana Dornak and League City Historical Society First Lady Nancy Richards. If you missed it you missed seeing several homes that have never been opened for tour before.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Walter Lewis, long time member and father of Richard Lewis. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Betty Lewis, Richard and Catharin.

Please don't forget our next meeting is Thursday evening with social at 6:45 pm and meeting at 7 pm. Our meeting theme is "Share the Friendship" and we will enjoy refreshments and share stories about the holidays and past events.

And on a final note, the City of League City has just completed a study for the Main Street Implementation Plan. Main Street and the Historic District are the cultural center of our city and give League City its identity. The study identified a number of catalyst projects that transforms Main Street into a more vibrant area. City Council will consider accepting the study and moving forward with the recommended improvements in the area.



Meeting Minutes

...Diane Kerkhove

LCHS November 17, 2011 Meeting

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

A vote to accept the directors for 2012 was approved by acclamation. The directors are Helen Hodges, Evelyn Garland, Jeff Hansen, Richard Lewis and Doug McKee. Evelyn is the only new member.

The president introduced the speaker for the evening. Ernest Randall is a retired NASA employee who has owned Clear Creek Gun Range for many years. He talked about what to look for in a gun. He recommended that people read to get knowledgeable about guns before investing in them. He showed many of his guns and explained how they worked, plus the history of the companies and manufacture of them.

It was announced that more helpers are needed for Holiday in the Park.

Doris Teets provided refreshments.



MusNews

Catharin Lewis, Director / Curator

Time passes, sometimes without notice. And then you stop and try to notice time and it is amazing how slow it can go. Looking back over 2011 some months at the museum flew by and others seemed to never end. We cannot call it a great year if numbers were the only criteria, but it did have many high points that still made it a success.

We introduced some new programs that really made this past year special. We held several open houses with local craftsman sharing their talents and fourth graders giving immigrant speeches. We were delighted with the results of this program and will be repeating it again this year the first Saturday in February. Plan now to visit the museum between 10 and 4 that day. We also held a Meet the Artist Event and had a behind the scenes tour of how a book was illustrated by Nathan Jensen, illustrator of several children's books. Those who came

found it to be a wonderful event and were glad the time was well spent. We hosted a Webinar Training Event in conjunction with the AASLH for area Museums and hosted a Galveston Historical Commission Meeting. It proved to be a good way to reach out and bring others into the museum.

Class registrations had its ups and downs, but March through April was good and November peaked once again. We held more summer programs that previous years but it proved to be very hot for our teaching staff. We want to thank the more than 92 schools, groups, seniors or organizations that supported our schoolhouse program and continue to return each year. We ventured out to a Catholic School Seminar with a booth to promote the schoolhouse program and received a great response. We thank our dedicated teaching staff of Catherine Gill, Sarah Eubanks, Sherry Frankovich for all their hard work.

Sales in the gift shop had its shifts in time also. March and April months brought in over \$1100 each and four other months kept the numbers in triple digits. We brought in close to \$6,000 in sales.

The fall months flew by with little time since I was in charge of the Living History Dinner and the Ghost Tour and then had my home on the Christmas Homes Tour. Both events were very successful and many thanks to all those who helped make it happen.

Somehow time came to a very slow pace in December. A family emergency kept me watching time pass with no time to really thank people as I should. I especially want to thank Bertha Adams who took charge in my absence. I also need to thank Diane Kerkhove, Doris Teets, Eleanor Coburn, Mike Conwell, Catherine Gill, Beverly Beard, Barbara Vermillion, Kathie Nenninger, and, Sarah Eubanks for stepping up and decorating the museum when I could not be there. I also want to thank Sherry Frankovich, Mike & Pat Conwell, Fay & Jerome Hake, Joanna Dawson, Cindy & John Seidensticker, Catherine Gill, Sarah Eubanks, Kate Jordon and Eleanor Coburn who worked the museum during the Christmas Homes Tour during my absence. As you can see we have many new faces and I hope they too will return and volunteer at other events.

We look now to a new year. It has been a rough start for me with the family emergency still ticking these past sixteen days and then it stopped once again. We lost someone very special to our hearts. Time continues and will heal that grief too. We will plan new programs, meet new deadlines and take a different journey in time for the Museum and its visitors.



Richard Lewis, on his antique John Deere, leads our prizewinning LCHS float in League City Proud's, Holiday in the Park Parade down Main Street.



Historic Homes Tour 2011 Wrap up

Co-Chairmen ~ Diana Dornak and Nancy Richards

The Historic Homes Tour took place on Saturday Dec 10. Things ran smoothly thanks to the Directors and Docents who did such a fabulous job at each location. We had about 150 visitors tour the homes. There was very little waiting in line this year and the visitors like receiving a history of each site to take home. The tour committee will meet on January 19 to discuss the tour and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for next year. All in all it was another successful tour. "A very special thank you to all Directors, Docents, Workers". Each played their part well to make things go smoothly.

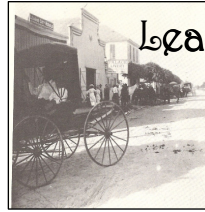


Diane Gillette gets a visit and a hug from Santa.

Deborah Gammon, Catherine Gill and Carol Bollman were LCHS Docents at the Historic Dick Home.



Lovely Diane Barfield inside the Dick House



League City Historic District Commission Report

LCHS Rep. to the LCHDC
...Fay Dudney

November 17, 2011

Commissioners approved a certificate of appropriateness to construct an accessory building on an existing developed lot located at 122 Michigan Ave., Butler's Courtyard.

Tony Allendar, Planning Director, City of League City, presented a briefing of a petition submitted to the City of League City and the Historic District Commission from 7th Street property owners and the Township Subdivision requesting their properties be de-annexed from the Historic District.

Jim Wiebling, representing the Township Development, expressed the desire to de-annex the development in order to eliminate having to conform to District restrictions.

Trey Schoelkopf, 7th Street property owner, expressed the desire to have his property removed from the Historic District.

Commission members voiced their desire to keep the Historic District intact.

The present boundaries include most of the original town site as platted in 1893 of the 2 league Muldoon and Stephen F. Austin land grant.

Specific Historic Sites, brickyard, cemetery, historic dock,

The route to the Creek along Kansas Ave. to the waterfront should be preserved to keep connectivity between the water and the historic area.

Connectivity between Clear Creek and Main Street is critical for economic growth.

The Historic District existed before the Township Development was begun.

It is possible to create historic character with new construction and applications of historic character which will accelerate to create a critical mass.

Entire area part of a single neighborhood.

Projects have been completed that were intended to keep area together.

If properties along 7th Street are removed from the Historic District Boundaries, then commercial areas should be rezoned to residential.

Preserve the historic integrity of Kansas (historic connection between Galveston and Houston).

On December 5, 2011 Planning and Zoning Commission deferred any decision to re-zone the proposed de-

Annexation area until the request was approved by City Council.

December 13, 2011, Council moved to instruct city staff to redraw the Historic District Boundaries to reflect the requested proposed boundary changes

December 15, 2011

Commissioners approved a request for a certificate of appropriateness to construct a passageway to connect 2 existing buildings on the northeast corner of 2nd Street and Michigan Ave., approximately 216 Michigan Ave.

Commissioners requested that Commissioners Comments be added to the January meeting agenda so that comments made at the discussion during the November 17, 2011 meeting would be included.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for January 19 ,2012, at 6 pm in Council Chambers, 200 W. Walker Street. The public is invited to attend.

LCHS 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

Butler Longhorn Museum
1220 Coryell, League City
~ 281-332-1393

Movie Night at the Museum
Saturday, January 28
6:30pm, movie starts at 7pm
Featuring TITANIC

Enjoy a night out with friends!
Movie, popcorn and soft drink only \$5
SEATING IS LIMITED FOR THE MOVIE "TITANIC"
~MUST RSVP BY JANUARY 27th



Become a Supporting member of the League City Historical Society

2012 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 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.