January 2018

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 25
Lora-Marie Bernard
7:00 pm

January 27
Museum Open House
10:00 – 5:00
Music & Refreshments
Come & Become a Member

February 22
Peter Davis
“History of Lifesaving in Galveston”

March 22
Ruth Ann Rugg
“Challenges Facing Small Museums”

April 21
Yard Sale Fundraiser

April 26
Michael Bailey
“Small Things Matter: Personal Equipment in WWI”

April 28
Museum Open House
“Remembering Our Teachers”

May 31
Mark Lardas, Author
“Texas Shipwecks”

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COME TO OUR MEETING!!

Our Speaker
for January 25, 2018 Meeting
Lora-Marie Bernard, author


After Monroe Edwards died in Sing Sing prison in 1847, Penny Dreadful memorialized him as the most celebrated American forger until the turn of the century. With a bizarre biography too complicated for easy history, his critical contributions to the upper Galveston Bay and other Texas settlements were inextricably mired in his activities as a slave smuggler and confidence man.

Author Lora-Marie Bernard unravels the unbelievable story of one of the most notorious criminal adventures ever to set foot on the soil of the Lone Star State.

Happy New Year!
We look forward to sharing history and fellowship at our monthly meetings. Please come and show your support.

Now special thanks to Steph McDougal for heading our Speaker Programs this year. Steph has lined up some interesting speakers. Many thanks to Richard Lewis, Joyce Zongrone and Kathie Nenninger for finding our speakers in the past.

Welcome to Our Newest Members
Joan Peeples
Jessica Shoffner
League City Historical Society
Minutes of the November 30, 2017 General Meeting

The League City Historical Society held a general meeting on November 30, 2017 at the Barn Museum. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by First Vice President Mike Peterson, substituting for President Doug McKee who was unable to attend due to a death in his family. A quorum was present with 14 members attending.

Richard Lewis introduced the speaker, Mark Keehn, Information Technology Officer for the Houston/Galveston National Weather Service. Mr. Keehn discussed the history of the NWS radar from 1870 to the radar’s current location in League City. Doppler radar was installed during 1992 at the North County building across the street from the Galveston County Office of Emergency Management and the National Weather Service offices at 1353 FM 646.

Following his presentation, the business meeting continued with a vote on the following slate of society directors: Richard Lewis, Ronnie Richards, Helen Hodges, Melodey Hauch, Daryl Krogman, Doris Teets and Diane Dornak. No additional names were nominated from the floor. Richard Lewis moved that these directors be accepted, Katie Hake seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The directors will serve two-year terms.

Mike Peterson discussed upcoming events including Holiday in the Park on December 2nd and 3rd and J’Nean Henderson’s Victorian Fashion Show and Tea, scheduled for December 2nd at Butler’s Courtyard. Over 70 people had bought tickets for the fashion show before the meeting with more anticipated. He also discussed the financial assistance the society is receiving due to hotel occupancy tax.

Mike asked members to consider future society events for a later discussion. Speaker Mark Keehn offered to return to present another program on the National Weather Service’s experience with Hurricane Harvey.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Melodey Hauch,
Substituting for the Recording Secretary

“You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give.”

~Winston Churchill
Curator’s Corner

Helen Keller wrote, “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”. I want to first thank my team of teachers and volunteers for their help this past year. It is because of them that we are able to share the schoolhouse program with so many visitors. Special thanks to Melissa Aguilar, Sarah Eubanks, Catherine Gill, Linda Michael, Joan Peeples and Anita Garcia for teaching with me. Special thanks to Barbara Vermillion, Doug McKee, Richard Lewis, Rachel Keehn, Mallory Keehn, Noel Parada, Luke Sesher, Dave & Katie Benoit Hake, Susan Pierce, Mike Peterson, Phyllis White, Amy McWhirter, myself as volunteers as well as the many that helped at home and did not sign in their hours of volunteers time. Volunteers helped with copying, making kits and copybooks, data entry, inventory, scanned archival papers, bookkeeping, and cleaning throughout the year. There was a total of 1478 volunteer hours.

We had 3778 visitors last year and held 101 classes. Groups came from Kingwood, League City, Nassau Bay, Sugarland, Baytown, Pasadena, Huffman, Tomball, Santa Fe, Friendswood, Galveston, Willis, Humble, West Columbia, Webster, Spring, Pearland, Deer Park, Seabrook, and various parts of Houston. Schools and groups are now beginning to register for the spring programs.

Our collection grew thanks to Catherine Gill, Laura Vincent, Charles Kilgore, Frank Dorr, S. J. Stout, Diana Dornak, Katie Benoit Hake, Doug and Charlene McKee, Doris Teets, Larry Wilkinson, Frank Goodman, Vickie Simon, Nana’s Attic, Melissa Markle, Wallace Tuthill and a few unknown donators leaving items on the bus barn porch.

We look forward to a new beginning this year with an Open House scheduled for January 27 from 10am to 5pm. We will have music and refreshments and docent talks for those wishing to see the schoolhouse. We will be entertained by music from the newest item in our collection the Grafonola, donated by Wallace Tuthill. We will also be sharing new songs on the player piano. The exhibit, “A Look at League City and WWT” will be ready. It will also be a time to renew your membership or start a new membership. Please plan to join us and bring a friend.

We have another Open House scheduled for April 28. Watch for details about this in next month’s newsletter.

A Very Special Thanks to THE SIGN SHOP for their printing donation of the Windows of History.

“The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention.”
- Oscar Wilde

A 1918 Columbia Grafonola was donated by Wallace Tuthill with a large collection of records. This entertainment piece came in very good condition.

The Columbia Grafonola is a brand of the American phonograph made by the Columbia Graphophone Company. It is driven by a spring motor that has to be wound with a crank before playing.

Earliest records date to 1877 with Thomas Edison and his invention of a device to record and replay sound.
While compiling a list of the 301 Texas Historical Markers in Galveston County, I realized that League City now has a total of eight. I knew we had several but not that many. Here they are:

- Fairview Cemetery, North Kansas at 7th Street.
- First Baptist Church, 2nd Street and Colorado.
- League Park, Main Street at Park Road.
- Magnolia Creek Cemetery, 701 Apple Lane.
- Mainland Mission Churches, 620 E. Main at St Mary Mission Church.
- St Mary Mission Church, 620 E. Main.
- Site of Galveston County Poor Farm, Walter Hall Park.
- T. J. and Mary Lelia Dick House, 720 Second Street.

If you want to touch the past, touch a rock.

If you want to touch the present, touch a flower.

If you want to touch the future, touch a life.

- Author Unknown
West Bay Common School Children’s Museum
“One Room Schoolhouse”

January 27, 2018
10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Located at
210 North Kansas
League City, TX
Admission Free
Come Join us for
Music & Refreshments 
and Docent Talks
Become a Member!

West Bay Common School
Children’s Museum
“One Room Schoolhouse”
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.

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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.