General Meeting
June 28th
Speaker will be Abra Schnur
"Next Steps in Oral History: Exhibits and Promotion"

Abra’s presentation will focus on different exhibition styles to sustain the lives of oral histories beyond the initial collecting project.

Abra Schnur received her Master’s in Library Science from the University of North Texas with a focus on archival management in the spring of 2017. Prior to graduation she worked in various academic libraries and gained oral history and archival experience from internships with the Smithsonian Institution’s Archives of American Art, the University of Texas at San Antonio, and most recently, the MD Anderson Cancer Research Center Historical Resources Center. Abra’s passion and research interests are with oral history and ways to make such collections discoverable and accessible for continued use. Abra is the Processing Archivist of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center and sits on the board of the Texas Oral History Association.

Everyone is invited to come to our general meetings. We hold them in the Barn Museum at 210 North Kansas. Social hour begins at 6:45pm. Come and bring a friend.

We are having our Annual Fund Raiser, July 19th at Butler’s Courtyard. Dinner, Silent Auction and Guest Speaker. Get your tickets early! ... see page 4 for details.
WEST BAY COMMON SCHOOL
CHILDREN’S MUSEUM

Curator’s Corner
Catharin Lewis

Richard and I just returned from the Annual Country School Conference held this year in Beatrice, Nebraska. There were twenty one States represented with more than 80 participants. We enjoyed the two day conference followed by the bus tour of six local one room schools. The highlights were the speaker about the Orphan Train and a special lunch on the bus tour at the home of an Amish family. What a treasured memory for us both. We always enjoy visiting with our friends across the country who share the same interest in the early schools.

Now back to work. Dave Hake continues to repair the Icehouse. He does such fine detailed work and upon completion, the paint should last many years. We thank him for his dedication, time and talents.

The Teddy Bear Parade is just around the corner and helpers are still needed for the morning parade on July 4th beginning at 10:00. We will need assistance assigning numbers to the participants, leading the lines and showing the museum. If you are available, please arrive by 9:30am and choose your assignment. I may be calling this week to be sure I have enough support.

Our consultant, Candace Matelic, met with members of the board, the team, several of our teachers and volunteers. We shared information about us and she helped us think about our finances, our partnerships and the mission with a vision for the future. Then, five of us attended a meeting at the Buffalo Museum where Carla Patterson presented a great talk about mission and vision. Work on this project will continue monthly with the team.

We are now working on the fall schedule for the museum among the classes already set for the summer months. Repairs and maintenance will continue as time permits.
Did You Know...

League City’s Buffalo Soldier by Melodey Mozeley Hauch

Magnolia Cemetery is an African-American cemetery on the border of League City and Dickinson. The entrance is reached by turning off State Highway 3 onto 18th Street which is a current boundary between the two cities. The cemetery was originally part of Dickinson; on March 21, 1978 the cemetery land was included in a section of unincorporated Galveston County that was annexed to the City of League City.

A double headstone on the border of the cemetery has inscriptions for Elic and Rosy Winfield, two of the earliest known burials. Their tombstone is shown on the right. Elic Winfield’s birth year should read 1847 instead of 1857. His first name varies on official documents; he is often referred to as Alex and Alexander as well as Elic or Aleck. Although his name on the tombstone is spelled Elic, it appears that he most often referred to himself as Alex.

During the Civil War, the Bureau of Colored Troops was created during 1863. Elic Winfield was a member of the United States Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.) serving as a private in Company A of the 76th “Ohio Col. Regiment” during 1863-1865. Between the years 1866 and 1891, many of the black Union soldiers served in the U.S. Army in six cavalry and infantry units; the four infantry units were later reorganized into the 24th and the 25th Infantry. They were originally sent to isolated outposts in Kansas, Dakotas, Nebraska, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico and Texas in Indian Territory where they maintained law and order, built and maintained roads, telegraph lines, and forts, as well as aiding the cavalry when military actions were necessary. Their salary was $13.00 per month.

According to historians the nickname of “Buffalo Soldier” has several possible origins: the soldiers’ curly black hair reminded the Indians of buffalo manes, their fierce fighting style was similar to that of the buffalo, and the soldiers wore thick buffalo hides during winter weather. Over time the proud label of buffalo soldier became a standard name for all African-American soldiers and is currently used by the American Army units whose history dates back to those early cavalry units.

Following his discharge at Fort McKavett in Texas, Elic Winfield settled in La Grange, Texas where he married Rose Ann “Rosy” Booker. The photo on the right was probably taken during the 1890s and includes Elic and Rosy Winfield with their daughters Minnie, standing, and Alma, seated.

Between 1900 and 1906, the Winfield family moved to League City, Texas where Elic Winfield founded the Winfield Chapel around 1906. Rosy Booker Winfield died on January 3, 1909 and was one of the early burials in Magnolia Cemetery. The old soldier died on October 15, 1915 and was buried next to her. A number of the Winfield children and their spouses were buried in Magnolia Cemetery in unmarked graves.

This information was extracted from Melodey Hauch’s 2014 book, Here They Rest: Discovering Unmarked Burials at Magnolia Cemetery of League City, Texas. For a list of her sources, contact Melodey at rmhauch@comcast.net.
The League City Historical Society presents

"Come On, Boys!"
Give the Guard a Fighting Chance

Fight alongside Your Friends
Fill up the National Guard
ALL BRANCHES OF ARMY SERVICE ARE OPEN TO YOU.

Living History Dinner
Jeffrey W. Hunt
The experience of the 36th Infantry Division (Texas National Guard)
in the Great War
Thursday, July 19th 2018
Butler's Courtyard
122 North Michigan Avenue, Historic League City, Texas
6:00 PM Social & Silent Auction, 7:00 PM Dinner
Tickets $60 / Sponsor tables available

Tickets available online at leaguecityhistory.org or oneroomschoolhouse.org
Also available at Museum, 210 N. Kansas or call 281-554-2994