March 2014 Newsletter Kathie Nenninger Editor knenninger@verizon.net

March 27th Meeting

Mid Century Modern Architecture in League City

Our guest speaker this month will be Steph McDougal who will be discussing Mid-Century Modern Architecture, which is so abundant in League City, and is reaching the 50-year threshold. Steph does consult work with city governments and nonprofits, helping them do historic resource surveys and educational programs. If you live in the Historic District, there is a great chance you may live in one of these houses, if not, you see the many examples as you walk the tree lined streets of this century old section of town. It all starts at 6:45pm with refreshments and 7pm meeting at the One Room Schoolhouse Museum, 210 North Kansas in the Historic District of League City.

from the President...

Ronnie Richards

Your historical society has a big year planned again for 2014. In this monthly newsletter and on our web site at LeagueCityHistory.org you can keep up with what's coming next. Among the events you can expect to see this year is the Children’s Teddy Bear Parade July 4th, the Living History Dinner at a date to be determined in October (rumor has it that Teddy Roosevelt may be attending) and our Christmas Home Tour set for December 13th. Other events will be forthcoming and as always the One Room Schoolhouse and Barn Museum will be very active throughout the year.

Our next speaker will be Steph McDougal. Steph will be talking to us about Mid-Century Modern Architecture, which is so abundant in League City and is reaching the 50-year threshold. Steph does consult work with city governments and nonprofits, to help them do historic resource surveys and educational programs. Don’t miss this one.

On another note Galveston County Commissioner’s Court is seeking input on the caretaker’s craftsman style cottage at Walter Hall Park. The home is now boarded up and in need of refurbishing and repurposing so it will be an asset that is beneficial to all of us. Long term area resident, teacher and former school board president Ralph Parr’s dad was Superintendent of the park from when his family moved from Galveston to League City in 1932. He was park director until about 1950. Ralph and his 7 siblings grew up in the house until he was 12 when they moved all the way “into town,” According to Ralph. That “town” was League City.

We deduce that the caretakers cottage in question was built in 1928 since they mention it in the past tense in County Commissioner’s Court records from May 8, 1928, that reflect: “The old buildings which housed paupers for the County were torn down and a neat caretaker’s cottage was built, roadways were shelled and
walkways created, a new fence and proper entrance was built along the park”. The dedication of the pavilion was held August 15, 1929. As more information becomes available on the opportunity to preserve this historic structure we will pass this information along.

We thank Catharin Lewis and Kathie Nenninger for this month’s refreshments.

Meeting Minutes
Susan Pierce, Secretary

February 27, 2014 Meeting
Ronnie Richards welcomed our guest, Dr. Donald Willett, who spoke about his newest book, Galveston Chronicles: The Queen City of the Gulf. Thirteen local historians contributed to this book, and Dr. Willett gave us a thumbnail of each chapter, including Galveston during the Civil War; the 1900 storm; the Kemper Family (who donated money to move the West Bay Common School House); George Ruby, the first Black Senator from Galveston; John Sealy, Galveston Medical College, and Big Red; and Stephen Crane’s visit to Galveston when he was a reporter in 1895. We also learned that the Miss Universe contest was held in Galveston and drew a crowd of 150,000 people. Galveston’s favorite pirate, Jean Lafitte, made an estimated $2 million dollars a year and traded with the Karankawas before they permanently moved off the island in the 1820’s. Because Galveston had the only natural deepwater port between Florida and Vera Cruz, the resulting business allowed Galveston to claim the highest per capita wealth in America at the time. Women in Galveston participated in both the state and national suffragette movements. Ft. Crockett once held P.O.W.’s during WWII. Dr. Willett’s book is available for sale on Amazon.

Refreshments for this meeting were furnished by Diana Kerkhove and Evelyn Garland.

Next month’s meeting will feature Steph McDougal.

Fairview Cemetery’s semi-annual meeting will be April 5, 2014 at 10:30am at Fairview Cemetery. We will be discussing our April 27th benefit and electing board members so we hope to see you at the meeting. Don’t forget your lawn chairs!

Coming May 29th – Harriet Tubman – The Resurrection of Harriet Tubman

Officers & Board

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<td>Ronnie Richards</td>
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<td>Evelyn Garland</td>
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<td>Diana Dornak</td>
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<td>Joanna Sharp Dawson</td>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
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<td>Catharin Lewis</td>
<td>Museum Director</td>
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A Special Welcome to Our New Members
Steph and Alan McDougal

Our very own, Fay Dudney, was selected as the recipient of the Sam Houston NSDAR (National Society Daughters of the American Revolution) chapter’s "Notable Woman" award. A certificate was awarded at the March 1st meeting (Woman’s History Month).
We had 235 visitors in February and held 11 Schoolhouse sessions. These groups came from Nassau Bay, Lake Jackson, Houston, Friendswood, Dickinson and League City. We brought in $200 in donations, $901 in program fees and 367.52 in gift shop sales.

There were no additions to our collection in the month of February, but I continue to photo and digitize the objects and archival materials. I am also in the process of research and plans for future exhibits.

The Galveston Historical Commission is holding some Spring Workshops and I want to invite anyone with interest in Museum work to attend the events. The workshops are scheduled for March 24th, April 14th, April 28th and May 5th. March 24 will train you in Orientation and Basic Collections Care. April 14th will be Past Perfect Software training. April 28th will help you learn to build mounts for collections and May 5th will give you Museum Office Volunteer Training. You do need to call ahead to reserve a spot at 409-765-2664 or contact nikki.diller@co.galveston.tx.us. We are in need of additional volunteers here at the museum and these workshops are a great base for those interested in supporting what we do here. If you know of anyone interested in sharing their time and talents at the museum, have them contact me at 281-554-2994.

Admission to the museum is free for all walk-in visitors and they receive a docent talk. Groups of 15 or more wishing to have a schoolhouse session must register in advance and send a $10 registration fee to hold the date or dates for their group. There is a $4 charge per person of those attending. We can take groups of 60 – 75 per day. Groups may reserve more than one day with no extra registration fee. Anyone wishing to reserve a date can register by phone or online. Our spring calendar is beginning to fill, so make your plans early.

There is still time to register for our Natural History Night April 15 from 6 – 7:30 pm. The subject is Flowers and meets a Junior Girl Scout Badge requirement but is open to everyone. Deadline to register is April 8th and can be done online.

The Historical Society 2015 – 2016 Yearbook is prepared for publication and we are selling ads to any interested people or companies. Please fill out the following form and return it if you want to be included in the next Yearbook.
League City Historical Society
P. O. Box 1642  League City, Texas 77574

Thank you for purchasing an ad in the League City Historical Society 2015 – 2016 Yearbook. Your participation supports on-going efforts of the West Bay Common School Children’s Museum, the Oak Tree Registry and our Medallion Program. Your contribution is tax-deductible.

Contact Name: ____________________________

Company Name: ____________________________  Date: ________________________

Address: ____________________________________  Purchase Order No.: ____________

Email Address: ________________________________

Phone #: ________________________________

Circle Your Choice of Ad Size:

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All ads must be black & white. Camera ready copy is greatly appreciated.
Please email catharin@orbitworld.net with a copy of your ad.
Make checks payable to the League City Historical Society and mail check to the above address. Call 281-554-2994 for us to come and pick up your check and ad. Deadline: May 23, 2014

Thank you so much for your support in this project.

Ronnie Richards, President  Catharin Lewis, Museum Director/Curator
2014 League City Historical Society

Dues Form

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 2013 or later, you are current for the year 2014.

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.
The Fairview Cemetery Group

Presents

Fairview Cemetery Fund Raiser

Sunday, April 27, 2014
12-4pm
Admission $5.00 adults (presale), $7.00 day of event
13 & under free
Free admission to the Museum with each ticket
Hay wagon tour of our beautiful century old cemetery
League City’s valuable history needs to be kept alive for our families and schools.
Food 12-3pm: BBQ, Chips, Fountain Drinks 6.00
By Lighthouse Charity Teams
Music 1-4pm by Kevin Anthony & G-Town Band
Come join us for some great Cajun Music!
Graciously hosted by the Butler Longhorn Museum
1220 Coryell in old League City (281)332-1393
Tickets available League City Chamber of Commerce,
Nana’s Attic, Book Haven, Milk Pail,
Butler Longhorn Museum, One Room Schoolhouse

If you cannot attend, mail your donation to Phyllis White, Treasurer, 804 Bauer Avenue,
League City, TX 77573