November 15th Meeting

Our November speaker is Sergeant First Class Daniel Lisarelli, USA. Daniel lives in Clear Lake City, TX, is a descendant of six Union veterans of the Civil War and the author of The Last Prison: The Untold Story of Camp Groce; the story of the 242 Union prisoners of war from the Civil War who were buried in Hempstead, Texas.

Lisarelli procured a Texas State Historical Marker for the burial pit graves located on private Waller County land, in memory of the Union prisoners of war from the Civil War who are buried near the site; Union POWs who died at Camp Groce, Hempstead, Camp Felder, Chappell Hill, and Camp Gillespie from 1864 to 1865. He has also received permission from the VA Cemetery in Houston, to relocate the exhumed bones to the cemetery. Two local forensic archaeologists have offered their services free and the owners of the land have given him permission to exhume.

Calendar

November 15  Daniel Lisarelli
West Bay Common School Children’s Museum
210 Kansas Street, League City
6:45pm Social ~ 7:00pm Meeting

December 8  Historic Homes Tour

There will be no regular meeting of the LCHS in December.

from the President...

Ronnie Richards

Please mark your calendar for our upcoming Historic Holiday Homes Tour Saturday, December 8th. There is more information about this event elsewhere in the newsletter. Everyone can help by spreading the word about the event and buying tickets for friends and family. It’s a great way to see some of League City’s past and some really great homes and buildings that will be beautifully decorated for Christmas.

Don’t miss the next meeting set for Thursday, November 15th at 6:45pm. In November we hold the meeting on the Thursday before Thanksgiving to avoid a conflict with the holidays. At the meeting we will be electing, by acclamation, new officers for the upcoming two year cycle. Nominees include all current officers who have agreed to continue serving for another year with the exception of the Vice President’s position where Evelyn Garland has accepted the nomination and the Recording Secretary position which will be held by Susan Pierce. One new Director will come on the board to fill Evelyn’s vacated board position and that will be Phyllis White. Therefore the new board and officers will be as follows;

President  Ronnie Richards
Vice President  Evelyn Garland
Recording Secretary  Susan Pierce
Corresponding Secretary  Kathy Weisskopf
Treasurer  Diana Dornak
Director  Doug McKee
Director  Helen Hodges
Director  Richard Lewis
Director  Jeff Hanson
Director  Phyllis White

I’ll be out of town and won’t make the meeting but want to wish everyone a Happy and Bountiful Thanksgiving and year ahead.

Be sure to visit us online at LeagueCityHistory.org and OneRoomSchoolHouse.org.
Meeting Minutes

Diane Kerkhove

October 25th Meeting

The October 25th League City Historical Society meeting took place at the School House Museum. President Ronnie Richards welcomed everyone.

Doris Teets and Melody Hauch were thanked for providing refreshments.

Members were reminded of the Historic Homes Tour on December 8.

The Nominating Committee reported that the slate of officers for next year will remain the same with the exceptions of Evelyn Garland for Vice President and Susan Pierce for Recording Secretary. An election will take place at the November meeting.

Newsletters are available for members on line, and interested parties can check this.

Richard Lewis was introduced as the speaker. He spoke on restoration projects and the importance or organization. He showed pictures of the school house, his home and other buildings he worked to restore. He showed slides of his progress and passed around old items of interest from these projects.

Robert Bauer told of a restoration project he did.

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

Writing slates date back to the 18th century and most was imported. Lap slates were very economical. Early scholars would practice handwriting and numbers with slate pencils. Errors could be erased and work resumed. Early slates were not framed. In our collection our double lap slate came from a Michigan teacher, Gerald Stout.

MusNews

Catharin Lewis, Director / Curator

As the year end approaches, much work is being done to complete projects and prepare for the holiday season and spring schedules. We are having good responses to our Natural History Nights program, so we will again plan to offer one or two similar programs in the spring. Plans are also in the works for another summer camp program and dates, advertising and ideas are being discussed. Watch for the notices on our web site or in the January newsletter.

As we look back at October, we had 596 visitors; held 20 schoolhouse sessions; brought in $1,347.50 in program fees and $15.12 in gift shop sales plus $200 in individual donations. We had $2,873.98 in expenses. Our visitors came from Cypress, Sugarland, El Largo, Pearland, Humble, Spring, Houston and League City. The groups consisted mostly of third graders, adults and several mixed age groups.

Collection work continues to fill any free moments in a given month. We are making progress in photographing the entire collection and having it digitized. We are in the process of changing the exhibits and this hope to be ready soon. Barbara Holt and I did complete the application for a cemetery marker and hope to hear the results of that soon.

Holiday In The Park

A Tribute to Santa’s Elves & Workshop at the North Pole

Jeff Hansen

League City Proud’s 15th Annual “Holiday in the Park” is Saturday and Sunday December 1st and 2nd, and lots volunteers will be needed to man our booth. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at our November 15th meeting. The booth shifts are 3 hours each and run from 9am-9pm on Saturday, December 1st, and 12pm-5pm on Sunday, December 2nd. It is lots of fun and a great way to spend your day and see the sights. For new members, it’s a good way to get more involved with the society. If you can spare any time at all, please help out.
DON'T MISS OUR
HISTORIC HOMES TOUR
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th

The homes on this year’s tour are all so very special and unique. Each home was especially selected because of its history and because it is exceptional.

The Fig Factory/Ruhl Home has a new outside feature which you won’t want to miss seeing. The Planco Home is grand and beautiful and right next door to the famous Dr. Dallas Home. The Giesler/McKee Home has undergone another restoration so it is even cuter than before. The Josh McFaddin/Pena Home, which is also lovely, has never been on our tour before. The Butler Longhorn Museum/Hall Home will play up the prominent W. G. Hall Family history since it was their home for many, many years before the site became a museum. Then, of course, we have our West Bay Common School and Catharin Lewis, our Curator, always has a special exhibit and marvelous things planned for that day.

So….if you want to have an enjoyable and informative day….come to the Historic Homes Tour on Saturday December 8th. The tour will be from 10am to 5pm.

Tickets are available at West Bay Common School Children’s Museum, local shops and the chamber. See list of locations below.

If you would like to purchase several tickets we do take credit cards. Just call Diana Dornak at 281-316-2122 and she will take the information and take your tickets to the school or mail them to you.

See you at the Homes Tour on December 8th!!

Saturday, December 8, 2012
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Advance Tickets $13 - Tickets Day of Event $15
Directions to homes and sites provided with ticket.
For more information, call
West Bay Common School Children’s Museum at 281-554-2994

Tickets Available at the following places
West Bay Common School Children’s Museum
210 N. Kansas - 281-554-2994
   Book Haven
104 N. Michigan - 281-332-5226
   Park Avenue Show Place
610 E. Main - 281-554-3953
Nana’s Attic @ Founders Square
501 East Main St. - 281-554-8199
The Milk Pail
1013 E. Main St. - 281-557-5555
Butler Longhorn Museum
1220 Coryell St. - 281-332-1393
League City Chamber of Commerce
1101 W. Main, Ste. R - 281-338-7339

League City Historic District Commission Report
LCHS Rep. to the LCHDC
...Fay Dudney

October 18, 2012

Requests to de-annex 4 Historic District properties located at 802, 804 and 806 Coryell Street, 525 No. Iowa, and a business at 601 Main Street, were denied by the Commission. The Commission asked City Staff to request Council to consider declaring a moratorium on future de-annexation requests until a report on proper de-annexation procedure that is forthcoming from the land use attorney.

Future of the Historic District and items to be considered in the overall vision and goals of the District were brought forth and discussed. Items commissioners would like to see considered are:

- Recommending Clear Creek be designated as a Historic Landmark
- Create a Trail System, Green Belt, connecting parks and places from at least Clear Creek Nature Park to Walter Hall Park focusing on the environmental aspects of the District
- Designate additional kayak launches
- Determine if the CC Nature Center and Walter Hall Park are included on the Gulf Coast Birding Trail maps
- Think of the District as a whole – Include cultural development within the district, economic development already exists on Main Street
- Explore expansion of the District to include 7th Street, Park Ave. South, Kansas Ave. South, and parts of Walker Street
- Research the possibility of adding street lights within the District.

Main Street Implementation Plan: Mr. Tony Allender reported that Council has approved and budgeted $2,000,000.00 for improvements to League Park. Construction date has not been scheduled.

There will be a meeting of the Commission next Thursday, Nov. 15, 2012 at 6:00 pm.
League City Historical Society presents

HISTORIC HOMES TOUR

Saturday, December 8, 2012
10am to 5pm

Advance Tickets $13
Day of Event $15
One (1) Ticket
Allows You to Tour
Six (6) Historic Sites
including
West Bay Common School
Children’s Museum,

Directions to homes and sites
provided with ticket

For information call 281-534-2994

McKee/Gessler Home - 1004 Third St.
Josh McFall/Peau Home - 924 Second St.
Butler Longhorn Museum/Hall Home - 1220 Coryell

Fig Preserving Plant/Dahl Home - 495 Coryell
Polanco Home - 316 E. Wilkins St.
West Bay Common School
Children’s Museum - 210 N. Kansas Ave.
The Barn Museum
210 N. Kansas Ave.
Enjoy League City’s Heritage!
leaguecityhistory.org

The Ice House
210 N. Kansas Ave.