Charley Gordy, our guest speaker, was at the site almost all of the time during the move and will talk a little of the history, show some of the archeological methods, the disinterment process, and the final disposition of all the remains. Come get a “behind the scenes” look at a very unique and rare move of an entire cemetery.

Calendar of Events

September 24th Meeting Charley Gordy From Toxic to Terrific
The Bus Barn next to the
West Bay Common School Children’s Museum
210 Kansas Street, League City
6:45pm Social ~ 7:00pm Meeting

October 29 Alicia Moore A Museum Filled with Ghostly Presence
October 31 Ghosts of the Past: Genealogy in a Cemetery
November 19 Garet Nenninger/Ed Linck- Restoration of Old St. Mary Church and the recent stained glass project
December 12 Historic Homes Tour
There is no December meeting

From the President Doug McKee!

July, August and September, WOW. I have been in awe since the Teddy Bear Parade success. Over 50 participants and 75 people celebrated, amazing. In August, League City Historical Society was well represented in Galveston at Ashton Villa Mansion to receive the Sally B Wallace Award from the Galveston Historical Foundation for our 1927 Salmon Ice House/1936 Barber Shop Museum. The Living History Dinner certainly out did themselves as Katie, Richard, Catharin, Ronnie, Marie and daughter Stanzie charged in with...
Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, BULLY. Thanks to Gary Walding for sharing your fantastic venue, Walding Station, with us. Thanks to Ronnie, Nancy and Janice with Butler’s Courtyard for donating the exquisite libations. Simply put, WOW. I am so proud of all our members and supporters for making history in League City for League City Historical Society. I know I left out so many behind the scene people. I could not be any prouder for League City. Thank you Lord for all the blessings you bestow on the League City Historical Society.

Meeting Minutes
Susan Pierce, Secretary

August 27, 2015 Meeting
President Doug McKee welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked the Board for all their work, including the recent award given to the Society by the Galveston Historic Foundation for the restoration of the Salmon Ice House and Barber Shop. That’s the third GHF award our Society has received in as many years.

The Living History Dinner is coming up, September 12th, at Walding Station. We need silent auction items. The Ghosts of the Past tour in Fairview Cemetery, Holiday in the Park, and the home tour are right around the corner. Baked goods are needed for the Holiday in the Park booth.

Our speaker was Elizabeth Quigley who spoke of the value of a handwritten letter. She reminded us that a letter can be a vital part of a family’s history because many people hold on to handwritten letters, unlike email and Skype. Ms. Quigley is an avid letter writer and has a large number of penpals worldwide. She and her penpals not only write each other, they show their creative sides by decorating the letters and envelopes, even making the envelopes (think scrapbooking). She showed us some of her collection of decorated letters and introduced us to “pocket letters” and a website, www.PocketLetterPals.com.

Curator’s Corner
Catharin Lewis, Director/Curator

Like many of you, we concentrated on yard work during the month of August. We managed to trim some trees, and get some of the weeding done. However there is still more to do and help in this area is always appreciated. In addition to the trees, we finished staining the Fire Hose Reel Building. Maybe this month we can tackle the interior of that building. We plan to paint the schoolhouse and repair the Ice House before busy October.

Being the hottest month of the year, we held a record number of schoolhouse sessions with eleven groups coming from Houston, Lake Jackson and League City. We even had a record in attendance with 215 children, 43 adults. It was also a busy month for walk-in-visitors. We had 48 visitors from The Woodlands, Groves, Galveston, Houston, League City, and Madrid, Iowa.

Registrations, research, fall planning and the Living History Dinner took much of my free hours. Schools are now scheduling for both fall and spring programs. We are planning three evening Natural History Nights, October 15, November 12 and December 3. The theme will be “Connecting the Past with the Present” – A Sewing Series with emphasis on simple machines. A flyer and details about the program is being prepared and will be on our website soon. The program will be offered to children ages 9 – 13 and will be limited to sixteen. We will also be offering this program in the spring.

Be sure to save the dates for the Ghost Tours on October 31st and the Home Tour on December 12th. We need your support, so help pass the word about the events and join us on those dates for fun, learning and social time with friends both new and old.

2015 Officers & Board

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<td>Doug McKee</td>
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<td>Joyce Zongrone</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
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<td>Diana Dornak</td>
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<td>Susan Pierce</td>
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<td>Phyllis White</td>
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<td>Helen Hodges</td>
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<td>Catharin Lewis</td>
<td>Director/Curator</td>
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Living History Dinner
Katie Benoit Hake, Chairman

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt (Larry Marple from Ohio) received a warm welcome to League City by members of the Historical Society as well as our Mayor, Tim Paulissen.

Attendance at our Living History Dinner was a record 106 guests at our new, larger venue of Walding Station and so our profit this year was $4,300. Gary Walding impressed all with his bow-tie, suspenders, and amazing building, bursting with antique vehicles, historical prints, vintage collectables, and even a working jukebox. If you run into Gary, please remember to thank him for his generosity and willingness to support our Historical Society. President Doug McKee hosted and Colonel Roosevelt entertained with personal stories of family, military campaigns, and political intrigue. MyLeighs Morsels provided the delicious catering and excellent service. Butler’s Courtyard graciously donated cases of wine for the event. Richard and Catharin Lewis hosted Teddy at their lovely home and made sure he had a tour of the area and enjoyed some Texas meals. Thank you to committee members Richard and Catharin Lewis, Ronnie Richards, as well as Marie and Stanzie Sesher. There were many individuals who purchased tickets and tables, donated Silent Auction items, and spent countless hours to ensure that this year’s dinner was fun and successful.

An interesting footnote…
TEDDY ROOSEVELT SLEPT HERE - Teddy Roosevelt stayed in a home in League City on May 29, 1898 while en route to Tampa Florida. More than one thousand Rough Riders boarded the Southern Pacific train to Tampa in San Antonio after training at Fort Sam Houston. On June 8, the Rough Riders boarded the Yucatan to their final destination, Cuba.

Did you know that …?
by Joyce Zongrone

Did you know that League City is haunted? It’s no wonder that with ancestors who were cannibals, pirates and outlaws, that the area would certainly retain an imprint of their consciousness.

The old Jack Rowe Funeral home, on the corner of Michigan and 3rd Street, had been a small hospital and a home for two of League City’s first doctors, Thomas Jay Carter and Orlando Patton.

The house was originally built in 1904 by Dr. Carter, who built an infirmary on the second floor of the residence. Dr. Patton bought the home in 1918. Patton died in 1943 and his wife Emma, lived there for ten more years until she sold it to Fred Linton in 1953. It became Emken Linton Funeral Home until 1958, when Jack Rowe purchased it. Rowe sold it to Laurence and Ava Wiard in 1968.

After the Wiards remodeled, strange things happened. Ava felt as if someone was watching her while she stood at the stove in her kitchen, which was the former embalming room. Another unusual phenomenon occurred in one bedroom. No matter the temperature it was always cold in front of its windows. The Wiards later discovered this spot had been the display position for the coffins in the funeral chapel. At 11 pm every night, they heard their youngest child’s feet hit the floor on her way down to their bedroom. The child told her mother that every night exactly one hour before midnight, a blonde woman dressed in white with a blue sash and hat would appear and ask, “Would you like to go with me?” The child would say no and run downstairs to her parents’ room. The Wiards later discovered that a young girl, about 25, died in the upstairs room during her stay in the hospital.

In another house close by around the corner on 3rd Street, the residents heard voices speaking Spanish in the hall outside their bedroom. Reviewing the history of that area, they discovered that their home stood on the spot of an early house of prostitution. A Spanish woman had been killed there and her murderer never found. The voice was probably the woman’s ghost looking for her killer. The house may have been the forerunner of the Johnson Hotel. In the 19th century many bordellos were listed on censuses as boarding houses or hotels. The Johnson Hotel stood at 621 Third St from 1896 through the early 1900s.
Strange things were also recorded at the Dr. Leander W. Dallas house on 210 E Wilkins. A visitor to the home, standing alone in front of a bedroom mirror, was shaken when a hand came out from the wall and touched her cheek. So distraught, she had to be hospitalized. Nellie Dallas died in the home in 1941, but her husband died three years later in 1944 in Michigan. Although no documentation exists, legend has it that the doctor committed suicide and that his ghost can be seen descending the stairs with a medical bag in his hand.

To believe or not to believe is a personal question. You may not see the ghost, but if you listen closely you can experience the flavor and the history of a bygone era.

If you’d like to hear more about League City’s Ghosts, League City Historical Society Vice President Joyce Zongrone will speak to the League City Rotary Club about League City Haunts, Thursday, October 29, at noon, at South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center. Luncheon is $13, payable at the door. For more info: leaguecityrotary.com

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**Book Nook**

Three books recounting the history of League City from its Beginnings through 1962 are available for purchase at Helen Hall Library through Local History Librarian Caris Brown. Each volume is $15; the set of three is $40. Titles include: League City History from its beginning to 1912; League City History from 1913-1924; and League City History 1925-1962. Supplies are limited.

*Fairview Cemetery of League City: 1900-2008,* written by our very own member, Melodey Hauch is also available at a cost of $20, if mailed $25. Contact Melodey at rmhauch@comcast.net

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**League City Historic District Commission Report**

LCHS Rep. to the LCHDC

...Fay Dudney

August 20, 2015

A request to modify the entrance of a lease space, modify the door, adding an awning, and potentially wooden shutters on an existing structure at 100 Perkins Ave was approved.

Planning Manager Ryan Granata and Planner Matthew Grooms, presented an overview of state laws that impact historic preservation.

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Sally B. Wallace Awards for Historic Preservation

President Doug McKee with the GHF award for the LCHS’s 1927 Salmon Icehouse/1936 Barbershop Museum

This type of Award has been in use by GHF since 2014. It is an 1892 roof tile from Galveston's Bishop Palace. Architect Nicolas Clayton bought extra tiles and stockpiled them under the house for future repairs. The actual roof has only recently begun to leak. The terra cotta tiles, manufactured in Baltimore MD, have withstood more than 120 years of nature's ravages.

Ed Linck, Jerry Dornak and Dwayne Jones of GHF with the Preservation Award for Outstanding Restoration of Old St. Mary Church at GHF Sally Wallace Preservation Awards

President Doug McKee, Richard Lewis and Dwayne Jones of GHF with the GHF Preservation Award for the 1927 Salmon Ice House
...at the GHF Sally Wallace Preservation Awards

Salmon Ice House before

1927 Salmon Icehouse/1936 Barbershop Museum

League City Historical Society Members at the Sally Wallace Awards held at Ashton Villa

The moving of Old St. Mary Church

Old St. Mary Church with restored stained glass in front

LCHS Members involved with St. Mary restoration and guests at the Sallie Wallace
Living History Dinner with President Roosevelt

~ A Photo Review ~

Doug & Charlene McKee
Chairman, Katie Hake
Commissioner Clark & family
Catharin & Richard Lewis

Diana & Jerry Dornak
Frankie Blansit
Jennifer Wycoff
Catherine Gill

Co-chairmen, Catharin Lewis & Marie Sesher
Nancy & Ronnie Richards
Deann & Mike Peterson

Sarah Eubanks
Commissioner Ryan Dennard & family
Steve Jones
Gary Walding & Kevin Burke

Joyce Zongrone
Sherry & Tommy Frankovich
Helen Hodges
David Hake
The League City Historical Society

presents

“Ghosts of the Past”

Genealogy in a Cemetery

Saturday, October 31, 2015
(rain or shine)

The tour includes West Bay Common School Children's Museum, 210 N. Kansas St. & continues with a short drive to Fairview Cemetery, located at the end of N. Kansas on the banks of Clear Creek. Costumed “ghosts” will enlighten you with tales of the genealogy of the Pioneer Family of Gordy. Surnames include Gordy, Derrick, McFaddin, Rakestraw & Frost.

J’Nean Henderson The Victorian Lady will present “Mourning Customs”.
The tour is approximately 45 minutes long. Because of the uneven ground along the tour’s path, we urge you to use caution while walking.
For more information call the Museum at 281-554-2994 or chairperson, Deborah Gammon at 281-334-4950.
Tour Times: 12:00 noon, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and last tour at 4:00 p.m.
Sponsors: SSCI, Environmental, Construction and Consulting Services
The Sign Shop

Adults $12  Seniors (60+) & Students (age 4 – 18) $6
proceeds from the tour will benefit League City Historical Society projects, such as West Bay Common School Children's Museum.
Thank you for your support.