P.O. Box 1642 League City, Texas 77574

281-554-2994

leaguecityhistory.org

leaguecitytxhistory@gmail.com

November 2022

LCHS Newsletter

Diana Dornak, Editor

LCHS November Meeting Thursday, Nov. 17 – 7pm

West Bay Common School Children's Museum 210 North Kansas - League City, Texas







Our speaker this month will be Joe Marullo with a fascinating story of an Italian farming family from Alto Loma. After years of effort, a Texas mother's quilt is finally finished; completed with a new book, by her son, to fulfill his mom's legacy. (See Story Page 2)





Welcome New Members!

Dan & Joann Benke

From the President:





Dear Members & Friends:

Wow! October was another busy and successful month for LCHS. We had a wonderful time of fun and fellowship when we participated in **Neighborhood Night Out**, held our first "**Punkin Parade**", helped solve the mystery of the "**Lost Purse**", and had "sold out" **WALKabouts.**

I can't say enough about our group here at LCHS. Lots of "thank you's" are due plus I want to say, "How in the world do they think of all these things??? I am always amazed and so proud it just makes me pop my shirt buttons!" Thank You to all who helped, participated, and donated in any way but especially to Katie Benoit, Richard Lewis, Catharin Lewis, Amber Murphy, and Deborah Gammon. Thank you's just don't say enough for these officers and members who work so hard to make all this happen.

Thank You, FAITH & SERVICE Doug McKee, LCHS President

My Mom's Quilt

A Story of Family Love

ALTA LOMA, TEXAS, Joe Marullo of Clear Lake, had never forgotten his mother's quilt. Many years earlier he had hand-drawn the original artwork that illustrated their life in the early days of Galveston County Texas.

This is a new book about how a son was able to fulfill his mom's dream of leaving her legacy with her quilt. Joe Marullo explains: "Although I have authored articles about retirement planning, I had never considered a book about the history of my family. My Mom had a dream to sew a family quilt for the next generation, but unfortunately, she was unable to complete the project. I finished her quilt by telling the story of My Mom's Quilt to fulfill her dream of leaving a legacy for her family."

See you at the Thursday, November 17th meeting!

Volunteers and goodies needed for Holiday in the Park Booth!

LCHS will be having a booth at Holiday in the Park Celebration in League Park Pecember 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.

Volunteer to work a few hours in the booth or bake goodies to sell - all support is appreciated.



Call museum number 281-554-2994 or email leaguecity txhistory@gmail.com for more information!





League City Historical Society

Fall/Winter 2022 Schedule



Nov 17th - LCHS Meeting

Nov 18th - Music at the Museum

Dec 10th - Christmas in Old LC

Dec 11th - Christmas in Old LC

Dec 30th - Music at the Museum

For Event details go to the LCHS website - leaguecityhistory.org or follow on Facebook @LeagueCityHistory





Katie Benoit Hake and Michael Peterson representing LCHS on the television show Houston Life with Courtney Zavala & Derrick Shore.



JC LEAGUE LIVED HERE

By Joyce Zongrone

As League City's 60th birthday comes to a close, its namesake's home in Galveston is still under restoration.

According to the Society of Architectural Historians, the 1893 home of John Charles League, at 1710 Broadway (its original address), was the last great house famed architect, Nicholas Clayton, built in the Broadway castle district. Nellie Ball and John Charles League, second-generation Galveston elite, and their family, lived in the gray stucco home decorated with white Colonial Revival details, until JC League's death in 1916 from appendicitis. It was raised above grade on an arched basement with a first-floor colonnaded gallery. By the twenty-first century it was the last grand 19th century house on Broadway. The home was bought by Eliza Kempner, widow of Harris Kempner, Galveston businessman and banker, after J C League died. The home remained in the Kempner estate until 1972, when John Stockwell Samuels, a mining executive and former assistant postmaster of Galveston, bought the home.



Above: The JC League Home in Galveston.

In January 2021, Carla "Janie" Mitchum of Houston purchased the home at its current address, 1702 Broadway. In 2013 her sister sent her a Facebook post of the League House. It had been vacant since Hurricane Ike 2008. She fell in love with the house when she visited it.

Many of the house's feature are original, including the Victorian kitchen, hand beveled mirrors and lights, 1920's and

1960's bathrooms, a five-foot deep basement cistern, pocket doors and Eliza Kempner's grandchildren's bedrooms on the second floor.

Mitchum estimates it will take six to seven years to restore.

Continued on next page.

(JC League Lived Here - Continued)



China Closet



Upstairs fireplace.



1920's Bathroom

Pictures from inside the JC League home in Galveston as it undergoes renovations and repair.



Hand beveled glass transoms.

THAT'S A WRAP!!



OUR LCHS
WALKABOUT'S
"MURDER &
MAYHEM"
IN OLD LEAGUE CITY
TOURED EVERY
WEEKEND IN
OCTOBER AND WERE
SOLD OUT!

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



Music at the Museum Mike Peterson

The League City Historical Society with the League City Folk Association had to cancel our Oct. 28th Music at the Museum due to terrible weather. It's been hard to determine how the rainy season will cooperate with our evening events. Safety first for all our guests while we ensure the musicians protect their expensive instruments. Thank you for your understanding.

To help with future events when conditions are not favorable, we're considering other local venues that provide cover and security for our guest in old League City. Knowing how much time it takes for everyone to prepare, this could help prevent last minute cancelations. Stay tuned.

As mentioned in the past, we continue to learn from the events enabling us to enhance each program while supporting the LCHS's goals and objectives:

- 1) To educate the community of the rich history of League City.
- 2) To foster a positive community spirit.
- 3) Restore/preserve the history of League City.

With Thanksgiving at the end of the month, we've moved the next Music at the Museum up by a week. The event is now scheduled for Friday, November 18th. To ensure everything is perfect, Tucker Hart and a few engineers met at the museum on Oct 21st for a "sound check". They worked to minimize feedback/noise ensuring all equipment was properly tuned.

The LCFA's online sign-up sheet has closed. We have 16 musicians ready to play. This includes several new artists joining the stage with other very talented returning. It will be a special evening in the historical district.

This month's artists include:

*Laura Kovacevich *Carl Brainend *Mike Sweeney *Mike Kiser * Tex Renner

*Angela Guidry *Leslie Herweg *Tucker Hart *Jay Williams *Steve Shannon

*The Nelson Family *Reed & Allie Rae *Tammy Carroll *Acoustic Chris

*Joe Irey Clemons *Shalane Coston

Continued on next page.

Music at the Museum - Continued

We'll kick the event off at 7pm welcoming everyone. We'll share some history of our once little town, then we hope to have a surprise with a few special guests, but the details are still being worked out, plus, we are planning to have the One Room Schoolhouse open. Please plan on joining us this month's LCHS & LCFA's Music at the Museum.

Once again, thanks to Butler's Courtyard for allowing us to use their parking. With their continued support the events are much safer when limiting vehicles around the museum. It's only a short walk down 2nd street in the historic district.

In closing, a quick update on Tucker Hart (member of LCHS and founder of League City Folk Association). On October 22nd, he was invited to play at the House of Blues in Houston. It's wonderful to see Tucker having this opportunity to play his

own songs at such an iconic location.

For more information, you can visit:

<u>LeagueCityHistory.org</u> (website) League City Historical Society (Facebook) West Bay Common School Children's Museum (Facebook)

League City Folk Association (Facebook)



And...the tale of the "Lost Purse" continues!



Richard Lewis being interviewed and filmed by "Inside Edition".





Daughters of Beverly Williams "Lost Purse" owner: Beverly Hicks, Andrea Sanchez, Rhonda Dohr.



Doug McKee at last regular Meeting.



🍁 🔌 Fall House Cleaning 🧹 🗑 🖺 🍁



October had beautiful weather to get some work done around the museum! The schoolhouse ceiling needed some attention and League City United Methodist Church sent Kathleen and Matt to help scrape. Artifacts that could be moved were sent over to the Barn Museum and everything else was protected with plastic sheeting. Desks were unbolted and shifted from one side to the other as the scaffolding rolled and locked into place. Overhead scraping is fun and a great arm workout (said no one EVER). Painting by the dynamic duo of Mike and RIchard was finished with the first coat on day one. Day two was a complete second coat on the ceiling and thorough vacuuming and cleaning of all surfaces. Day three was reassembling the light fixtures, bolting down desks and returning all the artifacts back into the schoolhouse. Thank you to Kathleen, Matt, Richard, Mike, Katie, and Catharin for completing this necessary job with such a guick turn around. Next up, walls and trim refresh.







Wreaths Across America

Since 2018, the Sam Houston Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, has been honored to host Wreaths Across America at

Fairview Cemetery in League City.

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve and their families, and Teach the next generation the value of freedom. This year's motto is "Find a Way to Serve," as serving others, or being in service to others, gives purpose. Every person has something to give, whether it is their time, ideas, compassion, or resources.

We are grateful to the League City Historical Society for letting us borrow folding chairs for the ceremony. Annual Wreath Day is Saturday, December 17, 2022. The ceremony will start promptly at 11 a.m. We hope to see you there.



Pictured above during Wreaths Across America 2021 is LCHS Vice President, Richard Lewis placing a wreath on a grave at Fairview Cemetery.



Pictured above: Members of Sam Houston Chapter, NSDAR during the 2021 Wreaths Across America.

** Help decorate for the Holidays! **

We are getting ready for Christmas in Old League City - need to hang some lights and add some bows to the museum property!

Come on out <u>Saturday</u>, <u>November 26th at 10:00 am</u>

Bring gloves, work clothes, and good cheer

Hot coffee and kolache will be provided to keep up morale



Email leaguecitytxhistory@gmail.com if you are available to volunteer &





Join & pay your LCHS dues online at

<u>leaguecityhistory.org</u>

or just send a check to

League City

Historical Society

P.O. Box 1642

League City, Tx. 77574

We appreciate your

membership & support

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to a longtime member of LCHS - *Jeffrey Arthur Hansen* who passed away recently.

League City Historical Society 2022 Officers

Doug McKee President
Richard Lewis Vice President
Amber Murphy Secretary
Katie Benoit Hake Treasurer

2022 Directors

Diana Dornak Director Helen Hodges Director Darryl Krogman Director Catharin Lewis Director Linda Michael Director Michael Peterson Director Susan Pierce Director Ronnie Richards Director