



League City Historical Society  
League City, Texas



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September 2022

LCHS Newsletter

Diana Dornak, Editor

## LCHS September Meeting Thursday, Sept. 29 – 7pm

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



**Program:**  
**Galveston Forts  
of the Modern Era**  
Speaker: Judith Rinks

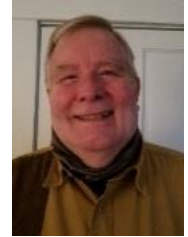


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**Welcome New Member!**  
**Courtney Smith**

## From the President:



Dear Members & Friends:

It's been an amazing summer and your LCHS Board of Directors and Members have been very, very busy.

Our speaker meetings have been very well attended and we can look forward to hearing from another interesting speaker on the 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm when Judith Rinks will talk about Galveston Forts of the Modern Era.

Our Yard Sale last week was great. Thanks to everyone for bringing us lots of good things to sell. Thanks also to Chairman Darryl Krogman, all who worked to make it a success and to Richard and Catharin Lewis for having the event at their home again.

As cooler weather approaches, we look forward to more Music at the Museum evenings and our popular WALKabouts which will continue in October. Thank you for all your continued support.

Thank You, FAITH & SERVICE  
Doug McKee, LCHS President



# The City of League City and LCHS hosted the Re-Opening of the Art Deco - League City School as the League City Community Center.



Can you name the three League City High graduates in this photo?

Answer to: "Can you name the three League City High graduates in this picture: Douglas McKee, Linda Lewis Michael, Ronnie Richards.



***Judith Rinks To Speak At The September 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
Her Topic: "GALVESTON FORTS OF THE MODERN ERA"***

***Joyce Zongrone***

Most people are surprised that a woman is interested in forts, but Judith Rinks has always been interested in history, the military, and mechanical things. She remembers seeing her first gun emplacement at 3 years old but did not know what it was until a couple of decades later. Her next gun battery was Battery Hoskins at Fort Crockett on Galveston Island, and she was fascinated. These structures were state of the art engineering built with mostly wooden frames and pile drivers powered only with steam power, mule power and manpower. Judith wanted to know about the forts, but no one seemed to know anything except that they were "dirty old World War II things." With the evolution of the Internet, she began reading and studying all the information she could find, collecting film photography and digital photos. She now has a Facebook page, *Judith Rinks*, and a web site about forts, <https://galvestonforts.com>.

She is also part of the group that does tours of Fort Travis.

When she is not fort-chasing she's a 45-year veteran firefighter for the Alvin TX County Road 143 Fire Department. As training officer, she started the department's certification program and is a State Certified Firefighter. Now a reserve member, she serves as Department Safety Officer, Chaplain, and writes and maintains the Suggested Operating Guidelines, SOGs. She was a member of the former Brazoria Fort Bend County Fire Instructors Society and taught Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, SCBA, Rookie School, and oversaw Field Safety.

# Step back in time into hidden history.

By Joyce Zongrone

Slightly southwest of the intersection of Interstate 45 and FM 517 is a little bit of hidden history nestled among the cedar oaks. Once called "The Ghost House," the 1897 historic home has now been transformed into a bed and breakfast, stepping back in time with three historic buildings on its forty-one acres. The original home, now the bed and breakfast was built in 1897, making it the second oldest in Dickinson.



1897 historic, second oldest, home in Dickinson, now Cedar Oaks Inn Bed & Breakfast

Henry Schaper built the two-story farmhouse for his wife Lula Schaper in 1897, mother of its future owner, Mrs. H.J. (Nina) Wiegand. The Schaper family, owned and operated a dairy on the West End of Galveston, on Stewart Road near Campeche Cove, from when they immigrated from Germany in the late 1800s, through 1978.

The Schaper family weathered the 1900 Storm in their home on their dairy farm. In 1986, at age 93, Caroline Schaper Harris recalled her harrowing experience as a seven-year-old child, huddled in the attic of her home with her siblings, standing on a mattress the whole night, with water up to their chins.



1922 Weigand Dairy milking barn  
*LCDR Joyce Zongrone USN (Ret.)*

In January 1920, H.J. Weigand bought the house when he married Nina Rau Schaper. In 1922 he built dairy barns on the property and Weigand's Dairy was founded, lasting through the 1950's. One of those milking barns still stands today.

In 1937, Nina Weigand's stepbrother, Walter Schaper, built a small house behind the big one, from salvage wood from World War I barracks dismantled in 1923, at the abandoned Ellington Field. Today it is a guest house. (Continued on next page.)

(Step back in time into hidden history. – Continued.)



Guest house built in 1937 from wood salvaged from World War I barracks at abandoned Ellington Field  
*LCDR Joyce Zongrone USN (Ret.)*

After Nina Weigand’s death in 1963, the main house was willed to her sister and remained vacant until 1970. Neglected and vandalized, it became known as the local Ghost House or the Haunted House. A ghostly green floating figure was seen in the old carriage house behind the main house. In later years, a medium visiting from France, encountered four ghosts; a man in a uniform smoking a pipe

and drinking; an older woman holding a baby that was not hers and a couple who come and go.

Current owners, Jeff and Tanya Nuss, “bought a canvas together” in 1995 and have creatively transformed it into a welcome respite, seamlessly blending the past with the present into a rustic retreat.

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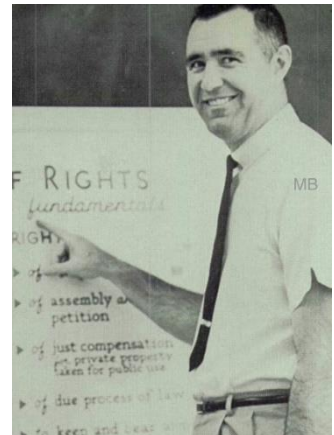
**Remember when.....** Two of these people graduated from high school in League City! The third one is a teacher. See if you can recognize any of them. We have given you initials as a hint. Answer is hidden below!



DK



PBW



MB

Answers to “Remember When” above: Darryl Krogman, Phyllis Bauer White, Max Blansit



## “Music at the Museum”

The League City Historical Society, with the support of the League City Folk Association, canceled last month’s Music at the Museum due to inclement weather. We received so much rain there was standing water on the grounds next to the one room schoolhouse of the West Bay Common Children’s Museum. The pause in the scheduled provided a short break from the heat we have seen over the last few months.

Now for our next event scheduled Friday Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, the forecast shows to be beautiful (highs in the mid-80s and lows in the mid-60s). The cooler weather is coming which will make it so much more enjoyable for everyone who can join the next Music at the Museum in the historic district of League City.

Due to extreme interest for the September event, Tucker Hart (founder of the LCFA) was forced to close the on-line signup sheet early. If you can believe, this month’s event will include 19 amazing artists who have now confirmed their attendance. Nine of the artists previously played for us along with ten new talented musicians wishing to be part of excitement. Each artist will have the opportunity to play two songs of their choice.

As for previous events, we will start at 7pm and close at 10pm respecting our neighbors in the district. We’ll kick the event off by welcoming everyone as we share a few interesting facts about the LCHS and the once little town of League City, Texas. It will be a great evening for everyone attending this month’s LCHS & LCFA’s Music at the Museum. Artists for our September Music at the Museum include:

- ❖ Two Fifths
- ❖ Pete Garza
- ❖ Cheryl Cawood
- ❖ Mike Kiser
- ❖ Carl Brainerd
- ❖ Bree Nelson
- ❖ Austin Nelson
- ❖ Jason Nelson
- ❖ Wendy Elizabeth Jones
- ❖ Scotti Fraser
- ❖ Jay Williams
- ❖ Gabe McKinzie
- ❖ Laura Kovacevich
- ❖ Bill Evens
- ❖ Joe Irely Clemons
- ❖ Angela Guidry & Leslie Herweg
- ❖ Gianna Rodriguez
- ❖ Tom Yount
- ❖ Tucker Hart







# League City Historical Society

## Fall/Winter 2022 Schedule



Sept 3rd - LC Community Center  
Open House/Ribbon Cutting

Sept 17th - Yard Sale

Sept 29th - LCHS Meeting

Sept 30th - Music at the Museum



Oct TBD - WALKabout - Murder & Mayhem

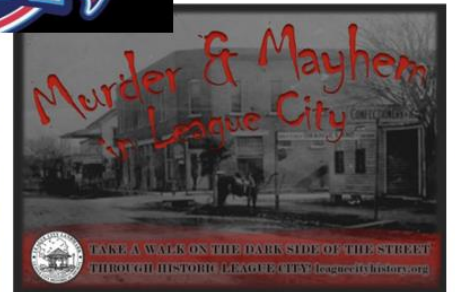
Oct 4th - National Night Out



Oct 15th - Punkin' Parade

Oct 27th - LCHS Meeting

Oct 28th - Music at the Museum



Nov 17th - LCHS Meeting

Nov 25th - 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](http://leaguecityhistory.org)  
or follow on Facebook @LeagueCityHistory

## DUES

If you have not paid your 2022 dues,  
you can go online and pay at  
[leaguecityhistory.org](http://leaguecityhistory.org)  
Or just send a check to  
League City Historical Society  
P.O. Box 1642  
League City, Tx. 77574  
We appreciate your membership!



## Remember when.....

League City graduation pictures  
continued.



Can you  
guess who  
they are?



A L



D M T



Answer to "Remember when" photos: A. L. Luprete and Doris Medsger Teets



For Event details.....  
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Or follow on Facebook  
[@LeagueCityHistory](https://www.facebook.com/LeagueCityHistory)

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## 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



LEAGUE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# Jump On The School Bus To Donate

Donate this month to double your impact for this cherished local treasure!



We need your help to continue our history into the future!  
A generous LCHS Board Member will match donations  
made in August to LCHS up to a total of \$4,000!  
To learn more about how you can help keep history alive visit our website

[LEAGUECITYHISTORY.ORG/SCHOOLBUS](http://LEAGUECITYHISTORY.ORG/SCHOOLBUS)



Thanks to our August Fundraiser, *Jump on the School Bus To Donate* we have been busy making improvements to our Archival room! Shelving units are now mobile and able to store more items in a smaller footprint. More consistent temperature and humidity control for the collection as well as additional archival storage boxes and packing material organize and preserve the collection for many years to come.

A very special thank you to...  
*Helen Hodges of SSCI Environmental and Engineering*  
for her constant encouragement and for generously providing matching funds for this LCHS Fundraiser - THANK YOU!

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## LCHS Yard Sale 2022 the most successful to date!

Thank you to our many members who generously donated items and to those who came to set-up and work the day of the event. We had lots of shoppers finding treasures and the pony rides were a huge hit with both kids and parents. Special thanks to the Lewis' for hosting the event again this year, our very own barker, Linda, and to Tank and Tequila the very patient and gentle horses.





If You Are Not A Member, We Are Hoping You Will Join!!

# League City Historical Society

Thank you for being a member. The various types of memberships with the associated dues are listed below. To renew your membership or become a new member, select the membership level that is best for you, complete the form and mail to:

**LCHS, PO Box 1642, League City Texas 77574**

## CATEGORY

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student/ Active Military | \$20  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (60 and over)     | \$25  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple            | \$35  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single (Individual)      | \$35  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family                   | \$50  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Patron        | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership          | \$400 |

## BUSINESS CATEGORY

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Member  | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Partner | \$200 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Leader  | \$300 |

*Please update your membership information here:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(For family membership, please include names of family members)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

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 postage.
- Check if we may list your name and address in our membership directory. This publication will only be distributed to LCHS members and will not be used on our website.

Please Note: Membership is for one year and covers you until January 2024.