



League City Historical Society  
League City, Texas

P.O. Box 1642 League City, Texas 77574 281-554-2994 leaguecityhistory.org leaguecitytxhistory@gmail.com

October 2020

LCHS Newsletter

Diana Dornak, Editor



New Date

**October 17th**

Rain Date: **October 24<sup>th</sup>**

**1518 East Walker St.**

**8am to 2pm**

You may drop off items on the Lewis' porch  
the week of the sale at 1518 E. Walker.

**Mask Required**  
**Gloves Provided**  
**No Children Please**

**We really need help setting up  
on Friday the 16th!**

For more information contact:

Richard Lewis –832-741-2680

[rklewis45@gmail.com](mailto:rklewis45@gmail.com)

Darryl Krogman-

[DarrylKrogman@yahoo.com](mailto:DarrylKrogman@yahoo.com)



From The President

Fall is here finally and we have some exciting things going on that will be of interest to everyone. Our first Zoom virtual schoolhouse visit was initiated with a school in California. That means the Pandemic has caused us to innovate and deliver our school program remotely to a more geographically diverse audience.

A new program called *WALKabout* League City is being launched by the Society. *WALKabout* will allow participants to join in small groups and learn about unique and historical locations and buildings in the city. Find more about that in this newsletter and at [LeagueCityHistory.org](http://LeagueCityHistory.org) or on our Facebook page.

All society members and their guests are invited to Block Party, Open House and Food Truck Festival outdoors at Butler's Courtyard October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm. Enjoy food from the food trucks and feel free to wear your costume and bring your pet!

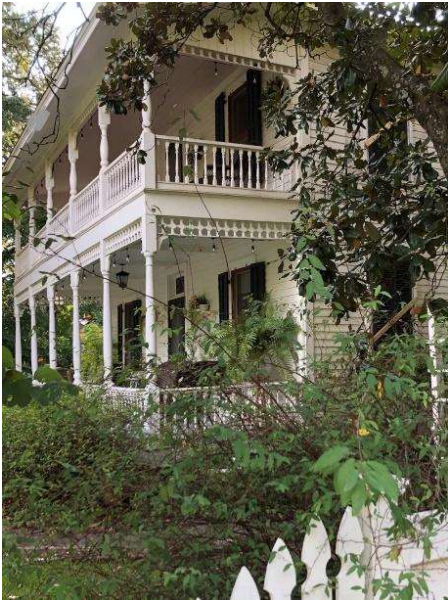
And finally, don't forget the Yard Sale scheduled for Saturday, October 17.

Ronnie Richards

[ronnie@butlerscourtyard.com](mailto:ronnie@butlerscourtyard.com)

281-797-1970

# WALKabout League City!



This month we are starting a new program designed to get folks out in the neighborhood – **WALKabout League City!** Come and explore the many things that make our community special. Our first WALKabout will be October 15th from 6:30 to 7:30 PM and will feature our Museum grounds as well as the gardens of the TJ Dick home. Donations accepted, space will be limited and we will follow current CDC guidelines. More details in a membership mail out and on Facebook. Register below.

Get ready to **WALKabout League City!**

<https://leaguacityhistory.org/walkabout>



## ***The Saga Of A Virtual Schoolhouse Visit...***

We were recently contacted by *The Castilleja School* outside of San Jose, California who wanted to do two “virtual” visits with our one-room schoolhouse museum. They stated that their 6<sup>th</sup> grade English class was reading a book about the life of a young girl in Texas around 1898 called *Calpurnia Tate*. This young girl's life, like most school aged children, included a lot about her activities and experiences at school.

We began discussions and soon had the dates and times set up and then I decided to start testing our wifi. I knew that reaching as far as the well pump might need some additional help. We have never actually been “on the move” with live video as this virtual (Zoom) class was going to require. Our wifi router/modem is located in back of the office about as far as you can get from the well pump, much less the schoolhouse. We have had our wifi through the phone company for all 25 years of our existence. It is called DSL and has always worked for us just fine. But for the first time we now have need for a strong signal over the whole property and with an upload and down load speed sufficient for live video.

Zoom requirements are not very stringent, they only require 1.5-2.0 MBS (mega-bits per second) upload speed. I knew we had plenty of download speed, but didn't know our upload speed, but have never heard of any lower than 5.0 MBS, so not to worry. I thought my biggest worry was to get the signal out of that back corner in the office all the way across the property to the well pump. Little did I know that when I tested the upload speed I found we were at a paltry .5 MBS (that is HALF a MBS) Well, now we were less than a week from class and “Houston, we have a problem”.

I checked with the phone company about upgrading our service but found that they could only double our speed to a whopping 1 MBS. Still unacceptable, so I had to call the only other Internet Service Provider that I knew of – Comcast (lucky me). They could certainly help us, but it would take a week or more to do a survey and set up the service. Too late for our class. I thought of making my cell phone a wifi “hotspot” but found that my service (3G) was only .3 MBS (that is ONE THIRD of a MBS). Nobody has a 5G phone yet in our circle of friends.

So we put on our thinking caps (2 days and counting) and came up with a plan. We thought of asking our neighbors so I approached Mike and Deeann Peterson if they had wifi in their house across the street from the schoolhouse that they use for wedding and baby showers. They did and were so gracious to allow us to use it. Now to solve the little problem of a few hundred feet between the two locations. We knew we didn't want a wire running across such a busy road so we thought of using a repeater to send the signal from inside their house to the museum. Well, after lots of trial and error of putting a repeater in the window of their house facing across the street, and then on the fence of their house facing the museum, to no avail as far as reaching inside our buildings with a strong enough signal. As you will see in the picture on the next page, Mike came up with the idea of 100 ft of coax cable and a step ladder with the actual router/modem (not a repeater facing the museum at the edge of their property) and it worked perfectly. No loss of speed or signal as we had with the repeaters, but straight line of sight to the well pump, to the schoolhouse and through the double doors of the barn museum. All with plenty of signal strength and speed. Thanks Mike and Deeann.

We are now solving our problem permanently by using Comcast for internet/phone and cancel the phone company for phone/internet. This provides 6 times the speed with stronger signal at a lower cost. Duh....



The two 1 hour long classes, with 30 students each day, went off so well we are now thinking of marketing this virtual one-room schoolhouse experience to the outside world. The teachers in California, who are Zoom experts, said that the quality of our product was so good, they could not believe that this was our first time ever doing this. This is a testament to our museum staff (Sarah Eubanks, Catharin Lewis and Linda Michael ) and Katie Benoit Hake our Producer, Director and Cameraman. Uh... woman. The time and enthusiasm that they put into the program by purchasing and reading the *Calpurnia Tate* book, taking our existing program and tailoring it to the story in the book as well as the school's request to "get them up and active", making it all happen in a mere 40 minutes of instruction and then being able to think on their feet to do a live questions and answer with the class after! They made it look easy but it couldn't have happened without their years of experience and knowledge.

Our first virtual schoolhouse visit now set the record for our program outreach distance from "hundreds of miles" (Austin/Dallas) to "thousands of miles" (San Jose).

Richard Lewis  
LCHS





FUN THINGS HAPPENING IN THE HISTORICAL AREA!  
DONT MISS THIS ON THE 30<sup>th</sup> AT Butlers Courtyard!!

*Fourth  
annual*

**BLOCK PARTY**

*Open House &*

**FOOD TRUCK**

*Festival*

**Friday Oct 30th 6:00-9:00**

**Free Outdoor Family Fun**

Join us for our block party, open house & food truck festival! Enjoy music by **DJ Mark with MAD Productions** under the giant oaks with sparkling lights, & grab a bite from one of the food trucks.

**Butler's Courtyard**

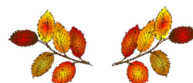
122 Michigan Ave, League City, TX 77573

Call/Text 281-557-5551 for more info

[www.butlerscourtyard.com](http://www.butlerscourtyard.com)

*Costumes & pets on a leash welcome*

*Butler's  
Courtyard*  
...historic elegance

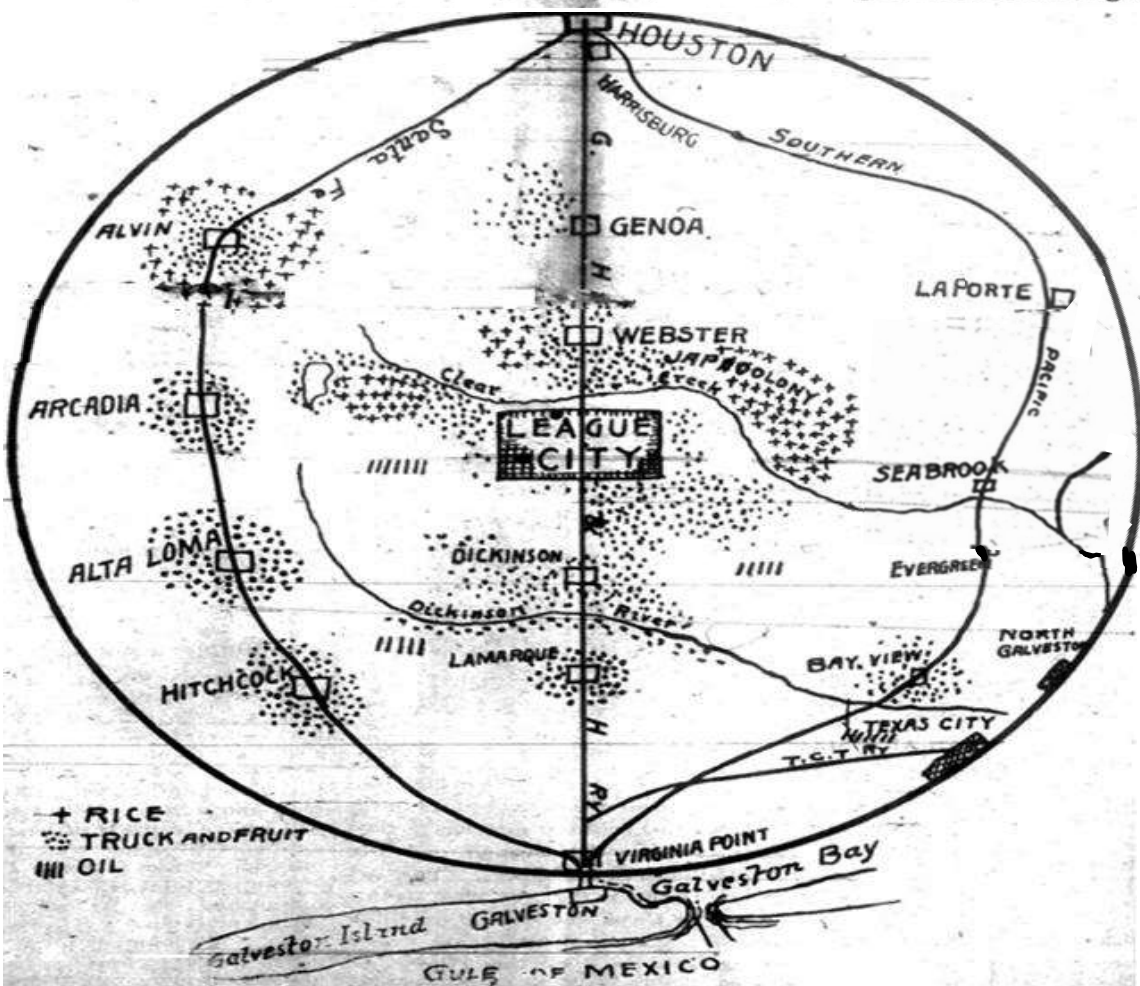


This month Deborah Gammon has sent us two interesting articles from the very early 1900's. Thank You Deborah!!

The article below was printed in the Texas Coast Promoter in 1904 See the next page for the second interesting article from a copy of the League City Leader in 1914.

The soil of Galveston County on the mainland is composed of a rich dark sandy loam, the surface here and there interspersed with attractive groves of trees; the land rising gradually from the coast line until Houston is reached, which is 45 feet above sea level.

This fertile plain is adapted to the cultivation of most anything that will grow on the face of the earth. Several Japanese colonists who are located in this county state that the fertility of the soil exceeds that of their Celestial homes across the seas—a land hitherto supposed to be the most fertile and productive on the globe. Galveston County is especially fitted for the fruit industry, particularly oranges, strawberries, figs.



MAP SHOWING PROSPEROUS FRUIT AND RICE BELT IN COAST COUNTRY.

As seen in the League City  
Leader in July 16, 1914.



## GALVESTON COUNTY BUSINESS LEAGUE

The attendance at the Galveston County Business League, while not large in number, made up in enthusiasm what was lacking in numbers. President Morris being away on a vacation, Mr. J. H. Ross of League City presided. The matter of a Galveston County Fair was brought before the body and thoroughly discussed and it was decided that an annual fair, to be held in some mainland town, would be of great benefit to the whole county. The matter will receive the attention of the league but it is considered doubtful if it would be best to hold one this year.

The following members were present:

F. H. Thaman of Alta Loma, W. S. Lawrence of Kemah, E. E. Stone of Dickinson, J. E. Walker of League City, E. W. Gruss of Galveston, H. A. Deats of Dickinson, J. H. Ross of League City, W. W. Shoch of Alta Loma, J. H. Leonard of Dickinson, C. W. Minson of Alcoa, W. H. Whyte of Arcadia.

### HOUSE PARTY.

Dr. H. E. Downs and wife entertained their nieces, Misses Mabel and Hazel Downs of Galveston, Miss Merle Heck of Alvin and Miss Bertie Trout of Galveston, at their country home on Dickinson bayou last week.

### LCHS Board Members

Ronnie Richards	President
Richard Lewis	Vice President
Katie Benoit Hake	Treasurer
Susan Pierce	Secretary
Diana Dornak	Director
Deborah Gammon	Director
Helen Hodges	Director
Darryl Krogman	Director
Catharin Lewis	Director
Doug McKee	Director
Linda Michael	Director
Michael Peterson	Director





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

- Student/ Active Military \$20
- Senior (60 and over) \$25
- Senior Couple \$35
- Single (Individual) \$35
- Family \$50
- Supporting Patron \$100
- Life Membership \$400

### BUSINESS CATEGORY

- Business Member \$100
- Business Partner \$200
- 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 LCCHS members and will not be used on our website.

Please Note: Membership is for one year and covers you until January 2022.