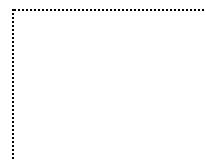


Box 702
Rockport, TX 78381
Phone: (361) 729-2133
achs1985.org



ACHS NEWSLETTER

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Large Turnout for Lamar Historical Marker Dedications

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

David J. Murrah



On June 2, members of the Aransas County Historical Commission and friends interested in history celebrated the dedication of the Lamar Volunteer Fire Department historical marker. More than 40 people enjoyed remarks by Monica Burdette, a member of the Texas Historical Commission, and a historical summary by Jackie Shaw.

County commissioner, Betty Stiles, along with members of the fire department, did the unveiling ceremony. Refreshments were enjoyed in the Lamar fire house.

The same morning a re-dedication of the 1936 Lamar (community) marker was

held. This marker is representative of those used in Texas before the advent of the modern Texas Historical Commission in the 1950s. Originally located at the north end of the Copano Causeway, it was moved to Park Road 13 at Bois d'Arc in Lamar so that people could safely view the inscription.

The Fulton Volunteer Fire Department will receive a historical marker this summer. Watch for an announcement. If you have an idea for a historical marker, please contact Sandy Garrison (rgarrison34@yahoo.com) who currently serves as marker chair for the Aransas County Historical Commission.

—Pam Stranahan

FROM THE LAB: A message from the President

By the time you read this the first day of summer will have passed and its hard to believe we are almost a month into the 2018 hurricane season!

The Historical Society has been busy, even though we still don't have a permanent meeting space or Lab. The Fulton Mansion has been generous in allowing us to hold our Board meetings in the Education Center. The repairs and renovations at the Rockport School may take another six months.

It was a pleasure to collaborate with other history-minded organizations to present a workshop in mid-May focused on using electronic resources to research family history, Texas history and other topics. Speakers **Doug Kubicek**, Chair of Lavaca County Historical Commission, and **Carroll Brincefield**, President of the South Texas Historical Association, were the speakers and packed the five-hour workshop with useful information and resources.

A big thank you to the Friends of the Fulton Mansion, the Genealogical Society of Aransas County, Friends of Aransas County History Center and the Aransas County Historical Commission for partnering with ACHS for this interesting workshop. Special thanks also to **Phil Albin**, **Pam Stranahan** and **David Murrah** for organizing the event.



Taylor and Marsha Hendrix and their contributions to the community were celebrated at a reception at a reception on June 5, sponsored by ACHS and the Friends of the Fulton Mansion. Photo by Veronika Camehl.

On June 5th the Historical Society and Friends of Fulton Mansion hosted a going away reception for **Marsha and Taylor Hendrix** who have moved further inland to Waelder, Texas. It was a bittersweet evening. A large crowd of about one hundred people came to express their appreciation to these two who have contributed so much to our community. They will be missed.

Our thanks to **Mayor Pat Rios**, **Monica Burdette** of the Texas Historical Commission, **D.J. Chilcoat** of the Friends of Fulton Mansion, **David Murrah** and **Janie White** of the Historical Society for their help and participation in the reception. Also, **Veronika Camehl** took great photos to memorialize the evening.

Marsha served on the ACHS Board as a trustee for fourteen years. We do not have adequate words to thank her for all she contributed to our organization.

Meanwhile, life goes on and history accumulates. Therefore, it is not too early to think about the approaching 2020-2021

Sesquicentennial Celebrations for Rockport and Aransas County. Planning has begun and we all will certainly want to be a part of them.

---Cheryl Livingston

2018 Photo Contest About Ready for Judges

By Janie White

In my last article, I reported that we are using photographs previously entered in the contest this year. Since we are still without our Lab, the logistics of getting new entries scanned were complicated.

I have been having a great time going back through past entries and finding wonderful photographs many of you submitted. I will submit these for the 2018 Photo Contest (2019 Calendar). We store the digital copies of the photographs you enter in a "Collections" folder named for you, the donor. We always credit your collection when we use one of your images.

I encourage you to start looking for photos to enter in the 2019 Contest (for the 2020 Calendar). We will be holding that contest beginning on the date of our February 2019 annual Members Meeting. It will end June 15, 2019. I can hardly wait to see the photographs that are entered. Keep in mind that the photo has to be at least 25 years old. That means you can enter photos taken as late as 1994--as long as they are historically important to Aransas County.

We are also compiling a notebook on hurricanes in Aransas County which will include the photographs we have of 20th century storms through Harvey. This will not be a book but rather a reference notebook to help us collect hurricane history before it gets forgotten or lost.

If you have photographs or stories on any of the hurricanes from the 1870s to Harvey, we would hope you would let us copy them for this notebook. We will, of course, make sure that you are given credit as a contributor. I hope you will consider helping me with this project. I have a deadline for completing the notebook by July 31. However, since it is in notebook format, information can be added any time you send it to me.

We plan to have the 2019 Calendar out sometime in mid-September. The exact information for the 2019 Calendar Premiere will be announced when we have the date and placed pinned down.

My email address is Jc-white@swbell.net.

Marsha and Taylor, we miss you already!



Our official photographer, Veronika Camehl, captured these wonderful moments at the reception for Marsha and Taylor Hendrix co-sponsored by ACHS and the Friends of the Fulton Mansion, held on June 5. At left, ACHS President Cheryl Livingston presented Marsha with a crystal star in honor of her fourteen years of service to ACHS at trustee, secretary, and vice president.



At right, FFM President D.J. Chilcoat presents her with a beautiful necklace on behalf of the Friends of the Fulton Mansion.



Special surprise presentations came from Texas Historical Commissioner Monica Burdette (left) who delivered to Marsha on behalf of THC its "2017 Chairman's Award for Exceptional Service During Hurricane Harvey," and (right) from Rockport's new mayor, Pat Rios, reads to her a certificate which proclaimed June 5, 2018, as "Marsha Hendrix Day" in Rockport and recognized she and Taylor for their exceptional service to the community in art, historical preservation, and volunteerism.



Taylor also received his share of attention. At right, Chuck Shamel spoke about Taylor's contributions to the art community in Rockport, and at left, Taylor received close attention from long-time friends Shirley Blackman and Bev Trifonidis.



This couple will be greatly missed. All of us wish them the very best in their new endeavors and community.

Connie Hagar Cottage Sanctuary

The Sanctuary celebrates the history of the site where Connie Hagar and her husband Jack lived and operated tourist cottages. On May 26 the friends of Connie Hagar invited the public to “Connie Hagar Day” to call attention to Connie’s role as a citizen scientist as she recorded bird sightings and migration.

Numerous organizations participated in the event including Master Naturalists, Wings Rescue, Master Gardeners, Friends of the History Center, and nature artist, Rebecca Stapleton. To keep the gardens at their best, volunteers work every third Saturday, 8:30 – 11:30 AM, weeding and pruning as needed.

Tour of Historic Homes

The popular Tour of Historic Homes will be presented Sat. & Sun. December 1-2, 1:00-5:00 PM both days. If you know of a home that qualifies to be on the Tour (fifty years old), please contact Kam Wagert (kam@wagert.net) who is venue chair. If you would like to serve as a house chair or docent, contact Roberta Sherer 9sleuthrob@gmail.com).

DRT (Daughters of the Republic of Texas)

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas held their annual May luncheon at Apple Dumpling on May 5. Holly Heinsohn, DRT member from Hallettsville, presented the story of women who struggled in the Runaway Scrape. She told the stories of five different families based on diaries to illustrate their journeys.

The local chapter of DRT meets regularly on fourth Tuesdays at the Fulton Schoolhouse Museum, a facility for which it serves as custodian. Members also serve as docents to open the Schoolhouse Museum every Saturday and Sunday from 1:00-3:00 PM.

Genealogical Society

The Genealogical Society is an informal gathering of folks who enjoy researching family histories. They meet to discuss techniques and resources very fourth Monday. If you are interested, contact Sally Reynolds (sallyareynolds@gmail.com) to learn about the topics each meeting.



Visitors helped to celebrate Connie Hagar Day during a tour of the native plant garden at the Connie Hagar Cottage Sanctuary. Photo courtesy Pam Stranahan.



Members of the DRT enjoyed a talk on the 1836 Runaway Scrape by Holly Heinsohn of Hallettsville at their May luncheon. Photo courtesy Pam Stranahan.

A membership in the Aransas County Historical Society makes a great gift!

Only \$20 for individual or \$30 for family. Send recipient’s name and address to us along with a check, payable to ACHS, and we will do the rest.

ACHS
BOX 702
ROCKPORT, TX 78381

ACHS extends a warm welcome to these new members!

**Fred Diederich
Penny & Rolf Hong**