

Smoke From The Chimneys



Long Beach Historical Society

Remembering the past to preserve our future

April 2020

President's Message

Hello Members,

No surprise here, but of course the April meeting was canceled due to the Coronavirus, as we must be vigilant during a world-wide pandemic. None of us wants to be infected and are praying for its exit. Thankfully, it appears that most all residents are heeding the warnings.

It's with deep regret that I mention our most recent Board member, Gary Mander, who lost his life on March 13th, but not from the virus. He'd been to one or two Board meetings and we were looking forward to having Gary serve with us. More on him elsewhere in the newsletter.

Another sad event occurred here in Long Beach when a popular couple returned from a cruise, both infected with the virus. They ended up in a hospital room, holding hands while waiting to die, which they did about 30

minutes apart. God bless Jerry and Frances Williamson and may they rest in peace. We send our best to their grieving family.

Circumstances have begun to remind me of my genealogy and society research, which have both included not only yellow fever outbreaks, but other maladies as well. Even in the nineteenth century, whatever happened in the larger cities of Mobile and NOLA, also happened pretty quickly here on the Coast, due to its popularity as a watering place for those living in the neighboring states. In lieu of health organizations back then, cities and states had to take care of their own, which included instituting and enforcing any rules to the best of their abilities. Care had to be taken because at the time, each community had different quarantines and rules.

In Rosalie and Radishes, when Mary Ellen spoke of how her family's cemetery sprang up, she

recounted the burial of a young family member who contracted a terminal and contagious disease. At death, the child's body was lowered from a second story window into the waiting and capable hands of two courageous townsmen and into a prepared casket. There were not many graves in the Quarles cemetery at that time and sadly, most were children.

On a lighter note, the most recent joyful event in our city, was this year's Mardi Gras ball and parade. Reigning over all was King Scott, Rik Dew and Queen Rosalie, Jennifer O'Neal Glenn. Congratulations to the 2020 royalty. The parade has really grown larger and larger since it began 49 years ago, with more floats and spectators as well. It's interesting to note how choice parking spots are claimed by city revelers, as soon as possible. For those away from home, the parade assembles at the stadium on Cleveland

President to page 2

***SMOKE FROM THE
CHIMNEYS
LONG BEACH, MS***

Beth Hansen: Editor
228-864-6100

Published quarterly by the
**Long Beach
Historical Society**

Officers

- President – Beth Hansen
- Vice-President –
- Secretary – Allisa Beck
- Treasurer – Eddie Ware

Board of Directors

- Iantha Hines
- Bernie Parker

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 244
Long Beach, MS 39560-0244

Physical Address

645 Klondyke RD

(South side of the central fire station on Klondyke RD)

Meetings will all be held on the THIRD
Mondays at Historical Society Building, 645
Klondyke Rd.

2020 Meetings:

- January 20 - 11:00 am (Awards Meeting)
- April 21 - 6:00 pm
- July 20 - 6:00 pm
- October 21 - 6:00 pm

Email Address:

lbhistoricalsociety@lbhistoricalsociety.com

Website: www.lbhistoricalsociety.org

Eddie Ware – Webmaster

Mission Statement

The Society's purpose is "to bring together those people interested in the history of the City of Long Beach and to coordinate their efforts in preserving and recording that history for future generations."

Long Beach Historical Society is a volunteer-based organization dedicated to the:

- Preservation and management of historic and cultural resources of Long Beach
- Provide educational opportunities for both its membership and the public

Avenue and turns on Railroad Street and commences to head west to Jeff Davis Avenue. The spectators on the Avenue are all standing, so that prime viewing area with parking and seating is all along Railroad St. Some of those folks are grilling lunch while waiting for the parade to begin. A fun time is had by all regardless of where their "spot" may be.

Sincerely
Beth Hansen

January Meeting

Dan Ellis, formerly of Pass Christian, before Katrina, who now resides in the Naval Retirement home in Gulfport, was presented the Mary Ellen Alexander Award. Dan was very touched, as he knew and respected Mary Ellen very much. He also came with a gift for us, one of his books entitled Gold Coast Watering Places.

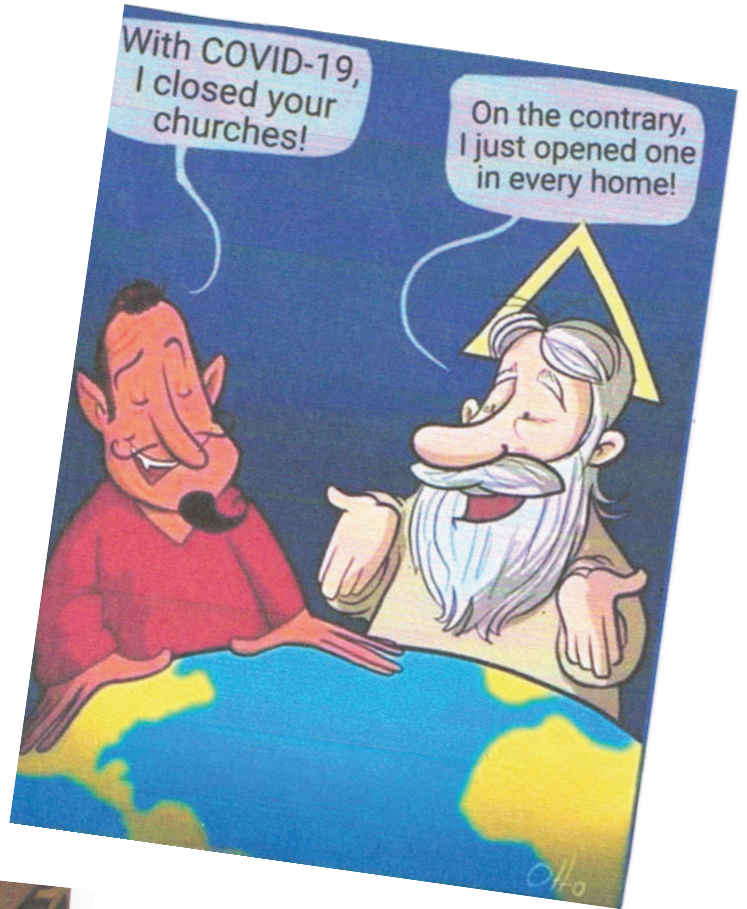
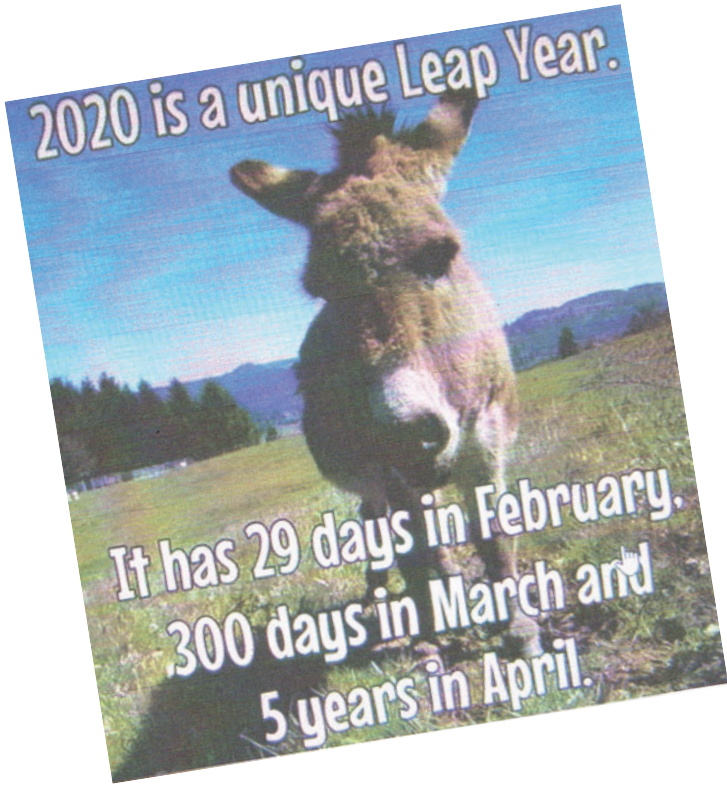
Dan moved to the coast from New Orleans years and years ago and just adopted our area. Dan is a former school teacher who turned to writing and research early on. He is a stickler for finding exact information and maintains several web sites. The two dozen or so books he has written about Coast history are really fabulous and are available on Amazon. He has written much

on Pass Christian also. Dan's historical research is amazing and he in demand as a speaker on the subject. We enjoyed the program he presented to us in 2019 on the Old Spanish Trail and he altered his regular program to add in more than usual on Long Beach. We are looking forward to having him back again soon.

The Harper McCaughan Award went to Jenny Levens, the first Community Affairs Director for the City of Long Beach. In a roundabout way, Jenny emulates many of the qualities attributed to Harper. She was named one of the 50 Leading Business Women, was named a Top Influencer and One to Watch. These are only a few, there are many more to be listed, but suffice it to say that Jenny's name is always in the paper, just like Harper's was so long ago, both of them making our city look good!

We were so happy to present these deserving recipients with these special awards. We congratulate them both and wish them well in all future endeavors!

Comic Relief Funnies



One more story on Long Beach, this one from the Times Picayune on Apr 22, 1927. It's very interesting to occasionally see what others thought of our town so very long ago.

Long Beach, Mississippi, Largest Radish Growing Center in the World

Long Beach lies between Gulfport and Pass Christian on the famed Mississippi Gulf Coast and is so named because it has the longest beach of any of the Coast towns. The main street of the town runs directly into the Beach Boulevard which skirts the edges of the Gulf and is protected by the seawall erected by Harrison County.

Long Beach is the trucking center of South Mississippi and is the largest radish growing center in the world! Radishes as well as garden truck are shipped out of here during the early season by the carloads. It commands a top price in the leading markets of the country and Long Beach truck and radishes are recognized by their unusual flavor. Some of the largest trucking farms are within the corporate limits of the town. Long Beach is also the home of the famous Gulf Park College for young women and furnishes the school with all of its water from the new water system just installed. This is one of the finest waterworks on the entire Coast and gives adequate fire

protection to the town. Over 1,200,000 gallons of pure water flow from artesian wells a day, and there is an elevated tank holding 50,000 gallons as a reservoir.

Long Beach is paved and has electric lights and all modern improvements. It is essentially a residential town of about 1,200 populations and differs from the rest of the Coast towns inasmuch as that it makes no efforts to cater to the tourists, preferring rather to interest the truck grower and small farmer with the unlimited possibilities of its soil and climate.

Long Beach has just built a new \$50,000 school and paved over five miles of sidewalks. Long Beach is also the home the St. Thomas Catholic School for children with an enrollment of about 175 pupils. A new stucco building has just been completed and will be used as a home for the Sisters (Daughters of Charity). The school is attended by children of all denominations and is tuition free.

Long Beach went into the present year with a new Mayor and practically a new Board of Aldermen consisting of Hon. H. A. Genung, mayor; D. W. Stepsich, O. W. Quarles, E. C. Miller, E. D. Willette and L. H. Dubuisson, alderman, and J. B. McCormack, clerk, Collins Phelps, marshal and tax collector. These gentlemen

promised to see that the road work begun and carried on so effectively by former Mayor J. J. Bailey will be continued. In its present mayor and board of aldermen Long Beach has a strong array of the best citizenship of the community.

We must not forget to give due credit to former Mayor J. J. Bailey, for the part he has played in making Long Beach the modern, progressive town it is today. Under his administration a school was built, waterworks installed and the streets paved. He build the back road connecting Long Beach, Pass Christian and Gulfport, which was later adopted by the County as a County road. Mr. Bailey held office two terms and many regretted that business forced him to give all of his personal attention to it. Mr. Bailey can be truthfully called the "father" of Long Beach.

Long Beach has wonderful opportunities awaiting the home seeker and the man who wants to reap the rich harvest of gold that lies buried in its productive soil. One man, Bernard Reinike, has made a small fortune out of a pear orchard, and pecans thrive in this section; satsumas will do nicely and there is plenty of room for more truck growers and he who desires to specialize in radishes, Long Beach gives you the "longest shot" at success.

Condolences

The passing of Gary Mander, the most recently appointed Director of our Board, came as a shock even though we knew he had problems. Gary had fallen and injured a shoulder and subsequently other problems arose and he wasn't able to overcome the eventual pneumonia. Our thoughts are with his wife Annette and their family.

Gary was previously employed in sales until about 25 years ago, when he went to work for the Grand Casino, now Harrahs. One of his loves was presiding over the "Y-Not-Stop" Coffee Group, discussing and solving the problems of the world with his friends. He also enjoyed his annual class reunion weekend and was quite active a few years ago for his 50th Anniversary, much to the delight of those in charge.

Gary will be sorely missed, not only by his family, but by his friends too!

Super Special Birthday

Claire "Tootie" Boggs Morrison was born on April 12, 1915 here in Long Beach and is the senior resident in town, as far as we know. She is definitely the senior member in this society and also at St. Thomas Church. We take great pleasure in celebrating her 105th birthday, even with just a card!



What a shame it occurred during a devastating pandemic. Being the matriarch of a large family is a definite plus on special occasions like this.

ADDING A SAD NOTE: AS THIS WAS READY FOR PRINT, WE BECAME AWARE THAT MRS. MORRISON, "TOOTIE", HAD GONE ON TO HER GREAT REWARD! WE WERE VERY SHOCKED AND SADDENED AND SEND OUR LOVE TO HER LARGE FAMILY! SEE MORE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER ABOUT MRS. MORRISON, WHO WILL BE GREATLY MISSED BY ALL.

Newspaper clippings

R. Inglis, a progressive and wealthy farmer of Long Beach, is operating a tractor and disk harrow that cost him \$1,500.00 but the work it does is so thorough, the cost is not considered excessive. It is now being used in preparing lands for fall gardening.

Monster Melons

Ben Mocerri, manager of the Aurora Farm Co., at Long Beach is at the head of an organization that produced this season the largest water melons brought to this market. He brought here today a truck load which weighed from 50 to 70 pounds, and they were quickly taken by buyers. The Aurora Farms Co. is composed of some of the leading Italian gardeners in Long Beach, and its products always command top notch prices because of the perfection they represent.

Farm Has Nice Yield

The Glen Valley Farm in Long Beach of which the Dauro Bros., are proprietors has produced a yield estimated at \$4,500 gross this year. The farm might be called a small one, as only 12 acres are in cultivation, but every acre during nearly every month has been made to produce a crop, and under this system, a maximum production was reached. A few days ago visitors from the north were so impressed with the December crop, upon the land that pictures were taken of them and mailed to their homes to show friends what this land is growing in December. The Dauro Brothers are young men, but they thoroughly understand the art of successful gardening and their farm is one of the best cultivated and most valuable in the Long Beach section.

New Store At Long Beach

The Aurora Farms Co., one of the most progressive farming organizations on the Coast, has opened a store in Long Beach which has been named "The Progressive Store", with Ben Mocerri as manager. Mr. Mocerri is a prominent member of the large Italian colony in that section and is known as a good business man.

from 100 years ago

“What Do We Care?” say Long Beach Farmers

The gardeners of Long Beach will live comfortably this winter, regardless of how high food staples soar. They have a fine crop of sweet potatoes now made, sugar cane that promises a big yield, corn that is now ready for the crib, pigs in the lot, pumpkins on the vines, and large patches of fall Irish potatoes planted. Later snap beans will be sown and the prospect of good times generally during the coming winter was never brighter. Labor is high and hard to get, but the gardeners know how to produce truck in Long Beach without a great amount of hired help.


Son of J. H. Bonnabel Killed

Mr. & Mrs. Bonnabel of Long Beach received the sad news yesterday that their 19 year old son, Edward Bonnabel had been killed by a locomotive at the home of his sister whom he was visiting in Gable, S. C. No particulars have been given yet. The remains have been shipped to New Orleans, the native home of the deceased for interment. For five or more years he had lived with his parents on East Beach Blvd, Long Beach. His father is well known in this section. as a road contractor. The family occupies the prior Thomas home.

Long Beach Cattle Owners Protest Dipping of Cattle.

Long Beach cattle owners have entered a protest against the dipping of cattle three times a month which has been the case during the past month, and a further claim is made if this rule continues many of them will dispose of their cattle in that section of Harrison County and for that reason they ask for a release.

A Big Thanks to our Sponsors



City of Long Beach
Bernie Parker
Alderman - Ward 2

103 Summer Lane
Long Beach, MS 39560

Cell: (228) 596-0528
Fax: (228) 865-0822
bd.parker09@gmail.com



19219 Pineville Road
Long Beach, MS 39560
228-380-0038
coastalautobrokersms.com



Rosalie Station
Car Wash & Detail Center

\$5 **FREE VACUUMS** **3 MINUTES**

ROSALIE STATION
CAR WASH & DETAIL
96 Jeff Davis Avenue
Long Beach, MS 39560
228-868-6003
www.CoastalCarWash.com



Long Beach Historical Society
P. O. Box 244
Long Beach, MS 39560-0244