

# Smoke From The Chimneys



# Long Beach Historical Society

*Remembering the past to preserve our future*

*October 2020*

## President's Message

A gorgeous October is upon us and so far the weather is lovely. Enjoy the fall flowers which may be blooming around you.

Most of the repairs on the building are done and the small amount left will be completed before the meeting on Oct. 19. We will be aiming for social distancing and the wearing of masks and will not be serving any refreshments. However, I won't rule out a goody bag as a parting gift.

I also did not line up an outside speaker in case things might take a turn for the worst at the last minute requiring a cancellation but I will present a program that will be interesting.

For obvious reasons, the Cemetery Tour has been canceled for this year. Social distancing while walking to the graves would really affect timing and the placement in the confined areas would also present a problem. I say this because several graves are fairly close together as well as being under the trees, which seemed like an excellent idea at the time when a pandemic was not part of our future. A revision will be considered before next year.

The Long Beach Breeze, a local newspaper, reports that a Bearcat Broadcast Network has been formed at the high school. A teacher, Gary Stone, said the school is always looking for ways to advance its students and the BBN is filling the bill. It's good training in mass communications and brings the school experience to everyone's virtual doorstep. How exciting!

As I look around I see that so many events have been canceled. Hopefully 2021 will be a fabulous year. Looking forward to it and know that all of you are too!

See you locals at 6:00 p. m. on Monday October 19th.

Sincerely

Beth Hansen

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

Beth Hansen: Editor  
228-864-6100

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Long Beach  
Historical Society

**Officers**

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- Secretary – Allisa Beck
- Treasurer – Eddie Ware

**Board of Directors**

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

**Physical Address**

645 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 19 - 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

**The Last Citizens to Receive Voting Rights  
A Follow Up on Last Quarters' Hundredth  
Anniversary Story**

Although there is not an anniversary happening on this subject at the moment, I feel compelled to mention this terrible slight in America's past. Although there were some African American female voters in the country before ratification of the 19th amendment, due to their states of residency, such as California, Illinois and New York, those women in the remaining states were at a stand-still. Impediments abounded in the form of poll taxes and literacy tests, and the unspeakable fear of violence and lynching.

Black women had long been involved in fighting for their rights the same as white women before the 19th Amendment was finally passed. Although not invited to their meetings or to take part in parades or other functions being planned by the white women, the black women were not deterred and were prepared to never give up in this fight. They were frequently pictured in the newspapers trying to advance their cause at all times. As you will see here, many of the ladies had to fight just to get into college and pick their own curriculums. Although advanced educations seemed to be on the horizon, even at such an early date in time, it certainly helped the aspirations of this tenacious group with such lofty ideals.

Black women had tried working with the National American Woman Suffrage Association but black issues were not that much of a priority to the group. The women soon found themselves in a precarious position. Black men wanted their assistance in the on-going discrimination struggle and white women wanted their assistance in erasing female inferiority in general. Yet, these two factions did not reciprocate to the black women who were deeply affected in all areas because of color and gender and they saw voting rights as a key part of racial equity and a means of uplifting their communities. It must have been

extremely difficult to be very committed to a cause and working hard for it yet, your voice was not heard!

Following the 19th amendment, when many organizations were disbanding, the black women could not stop in their efforts to advance themselves and in addition to attending meetings at their churches and other important places, they began to rely heavily on the National Association of Colored Women (NACW). This organization had been founded in 1896 by Josephine St. Pierre and Charlotte Forten Grimke. These two prominent Boston women were some of those who began forming new organizations in order to especially focus on issues which were more specific to their needs. Mary McLeod Bethune formed the National Council of Negro Women in 1935 in pursuit of civil rights. Earlier in 1913, Ida B. Wells had founded the Alpha Suffrage Club of Chicago, focusing entirely on suffrage for black women.



Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin



Ida B Wells & Children

Ida B. Wells, was born in Holly Springs, MS. in 1862 to slave parents. However, when she was just six months old, she, her siblings and parents were all decreed free due to the Emancipation Proclamation. As they got older, her parents James Wells became a trustee of Shaw College (now Rust College) and her mother, Lizzie, became a "famous" cook. The both believed that education was necessary to keep people out of poverty. So, Ida was inspired by these fine parents.

When Ida was only 16, both of her parents and a brother perished in the 1878 Yellow Fever epidemic. The family had already lost another son to illness. Family members said the 5 young children would have to be split up to find homes for them but Ida wouldn't hear of it and assumed responsibility herself. Her grandmother and others helped so she could work during the days. Although she was young and already enrolled in Rust College, she got a job teaching school to support herself and the children. When her grandmother passed, Ida and the children were invited

*Right to vote to page 4*

*Right to vote from page 3*

to Memphis to live with an aunt. They did and she also went to college there.

This young woman became more and more active as a writer and journalist. She took editing jobs and wrote for black owned newspapers, one of which she later bought. She also ended up living in Chicago

Lynching of blacks kept escalating around the United States and when three of her friends died in this manner, in 1892, she took up the cause. She eventually wrote a book with tabulated statistics and causes of this heinous activity and even spoke about it in Europe while touring, trying to expose it for what it was.

Sometimes Miss Wells created a lot of attention and probably made others uncomfortable but her causes were completely valid and worth fighting for. She did everything she could to raise up the black community and fought intensely for the right to vote. Upon asking the white suffragists if she and her cohorts for permission to walk in their parade, she was told they could walk at the BACK of the parade. Ida began by watching the parade on the side lines and as the white contingent was passing by, she just slipped right into it and joined arms with two of her white friends and just kept walking.

Most of the women involved in the voting fight were well educated and heavily involved in other civic and community affairs of their day.

By the time the women were finally granted voting rights in 1965, through the Voting Rights Act, which outlawed discriminatory voting practices, they had also been fighting for the right in excess of a hundred years.

Too bad that Ida, who along the way, had married Ferdinand Barnett, a progressive lawyer, journalist, and activist who shared her zeal to change the world, died before President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights into law 1965.

And just this year, the Emmitt Till Anti-lynching Law passed, and Ida, who passed in 1931 was awarded a Pulitzer Prize posthumously for "her outstanding and courageous reporting on the horrific and vicious violence against African Americans during the era of lynching."

### **Anna Julia Cooper**

Anna Julia Haywood was born enslaved in 1858 in Raleigh, North Carolina. She was allowed to attend school where she excelled and by the time she enrolled in Oberlin college in Ohio, she chose the "gentleman's course" instead of the shorter, easier, women's program. During this period in history, women weren't expected to go to college and being black also seemed to be a deterrent. Oberlin was one of the first colleges to even accept women, who usually did not apply for college enrollment.



Anna just breezed through her curriculum with no problem and after receiving a Master's degree she also went on to receive a PhD from the Sorbonne in Paris and went on to become an author, college educator, sociologist, speaker, Black liberation activist and one of the most prominent African American scholars in United States history!

Miss Haywood married George Cooper when she was twenty-one years old but sadly, he died two years later. She never remarried and would live to be 105 years old and was then interred at his side.

One of Anna's quotes is now printed on U. S. Passports. It is: *"The cause of freedom is not the cause of a race or a sect, a party or a class--it is the cause of humankind, the very birthright of humanity."*

### **Mary Church Terrell**

"Mollie", as she was known, was a native of Memphis and the daughter of freed slaves. Her father had the distinction of being known as one of the first African American millionaires in the south. She would attend Oberlin College in Ohio and earned a 4 year degree in the Classics which included a lot of Greek. She later earned a Master's Degree along with her friend Anna

J. Cooper, the first two African American women to do so. She also faced difficulty in her decision to enroll in the "gentleman's program and also had no problems with the course load.



Robert Terrell from Oberlin College would become Mary's choice to be her husband and he eventually became a lawyer. During this time she constantly fought for equality which she did for most of her life with most of the women listed in these pages. Some of them founded new organizations and were co-founders of many of them together including the NAACP.

In addition to Greek, Mollie also later became fluent in French, German and Italian and in 1904 she was invited to speak at the International Congress of Women in Berlin. She received an enthusiastic ovation when she delivered her address in both German and French and then in English.

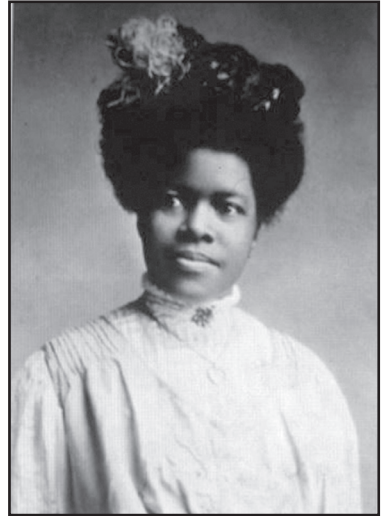
*Right to vote to page 5*

Right to vote from page 5

### Nannie Helen Burroughs

Born in Orange, Virginia to enslaved parents, Nannie came into this world in 1879. Her father died when she was young and she and her mother moved to Washington, D. C. From the beginning, Nannie wanted to teach women. She had graduated from high school with honors and was ready to help others.

After being turned down for a teaching position in Washington, Miss Burroughs was undaunted and decided to open her own school. She asked the National Baptist Convention for help and it purchased 6 acres of land in Washington and donated it for a school. Nannie raised the money to build it on her own through small donations.



The school began in a small structure where women and girls could learn new skills apart from domestic work. Since career choices for black women were so deficient, new skills were a must. Criticism came forth from others but the school was a success and by 1928 a much larger facility was built which became known as Trades Hall..

Burroughs kept working and devoted her life to helping black women by fighting for civil rights in all areas. Sadly she died before the black vote was legalized in 1965 but must be happy knowing that her Trades Hall is now a National Historic Landmark and her school has been renamed in her honor, The Nannie Helen Burroughs School. One could say that the Civil Rights Movement grew from the ideas espoused by the late Nannie Burroughs.

Burroughs kept working and devoted her life to helping black women by fighting for civil rights in all areas. Sadly she died before the black vote was legalized in 1965 but must be happy knowing that her Trades Hall is now a National Historic Landmark and her school has been renamed in her honor, The Nannie Helen Burroughs School. One could say that the Civil Rights Movement grew from the ideas espoused by the late Nannie Burroughs.

### Hallie Quinn Brown

Hallie was born in Pennsylvania and lived in Canada as a small child. The family moved to Ohio where she graduated from Wilburforce University with a Bachelor of Science Degree and got into the teaching field. When she later received her Master's Degree, also from Wilburforce, she was the first woman to do so.

Her 2nd job was in Mississippi, teaching on the Sonora Plantation and also in Yazoo City. Hallie was dean of Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina in the late 1880's and was also principal

of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama under Booker T. Washington in the late 1890's.



Possessing a lovely voice, Hallie, an elocutionist, spoke before hundreds of audiences, and tens of thousands of people. She always seemed to command attention as she spoke, having perfect control of her throat muscles. It was said that she caused wave after wave of laughter in her humorous readings and tears in the more moving pieces.

An extremely busy woman, Hallie Quinn Brown, was an educator, principal, dean, professor, reformer and activist and writer during her active years. She also belonged to or either began numerous organizations that benefitted her people. She spoke at the 1924 Republican National Convention and later directed campaign work among African-Americans for President Calvin Coolidge.

Her professorship was at her Alma Mater, Wilberforce, in 1893 where she lectured frequently on issues which affected African Americans, as well as the temperance movement. In 1895 she spoke at the International Woman's Christian Temperance Union conference in London and also represented the US at the International Conference of Women in London in 1899.



Being able to use their God given rights as an American citizen, these women are finally exercising their right to vote. They are proud and wearing their Sunday best!

The following is an article from May 12, 1894. A few of the facts seem to have an uncanny connection to our area, yet, oh so different.

### CATS WITHOUT TAILS

#### Curious Creatures Found Only at Long Beach, New Jersey

Seven miles from the mainland on which the village of Beach Haven, NJ, stands is a narrow strip of land which is called Long Beach.

On it there is the only tribe of tailless cats in this country. Early in this century a large English ship was wrecked on that part of the Jersey coast. The sailors were saved, and so were a lot of cats on board, Manx cats, a curious breed born without tails, from the Isle of Man in the Irish sea.

At first the animals were quite tame and frequented the vicinity of the lighthouse, where they held nightly open-air concerts that were not musical enough to merit the appreciation of the lightkeepers, and ultimately resulted in their being driven away. Then they took to the woods and managed to subsist during the first winter on birds, thousands of which lived in the swamps. The cats increased rapidly and in a few years numbers of them could be found almost everywhere in Barnegat's woods.

Their outdoor life made them savage, and the breed seems to have increased in both size and courage, for eventually they became so fierce that they would stand and show fight toward anyone who invaded their area. They are curious-looking creatures. The front legs being shorter than the hind legs results in large jumps as they go about, and it is said they can easily outrun an ordinary dog.

The cats make good fishers and when fish are plentiful they go along the beach, and, as the breakers run up on the shore, carrying with them small butterfish, mullets and silver bait, they jump into the shallow water and with their sharp claws pin a fish to the sand, and the outgoing wave leaves their prey exposed. Before another breaker can roll in, they catch the fish and take it up on the dry beach and devour it.

At times dozens of these strange-looking cats can be seen on the beach also making meals off the surf clams that are cast up by the tide.

For the past twenty or thirty years, Long Beach has been a famous summer resort. Many of the cats have been killed by tourists or frightened back into the swamps. Occasionally some more humane visitor endeavored to tame one of the animals. It is hard work, but when the effort is successful there is no more domestic or affectionate pet than a Manx cat.

William Alsa, in Golden Days.

## Old Newspaper Clippings

1920

### TRACTION COMPANY TO RAISE FARES

New Rates Granted By Coast Cities  
To Permit Wage Increase to Take  
Effect on Tuesday June 15.

Tomorrow morning the new rate of car fare on the Traction Line will take effect. The rate has been increased 1 cent for each zone. Where they formerly charged 5 cents fare it will now be 7 cents.

There are nine zones from Pass Christian to Biloxi and this will increase the fare between these two towns 8 cents. The new fare from Gulfport to Biloxi will be 35 cents and from Gulfport to Pass Christian 28 cents.

The different zones are from Biloxi to Rodenberg Ave, one zone; Rodenberg Ave to Gulf Coast Life Insurance, Co., second zone; Life Ins. Co. to Military Academy, third zone; Military Academy to Naval Station, fourth zone; Naval Station to Gulfport, fifth zone; Gulfport to west corporation line, sixth zone; corporation line to Lang's stop, seventh zone; Lang's Stop to Espy Ave, eighth zone; and from Espy Ave. to Pass Christian, ninth zone.

However for a through fare from Biloxi to Pass Christian, eight zones only are counted, the through fare being 56 cents. As is generally known this increase in fares was allowed by the cities along the way in order that the carmen might receive an increase in pay.

1919

### TRACTION COMPANY WATCH WASHOUTS

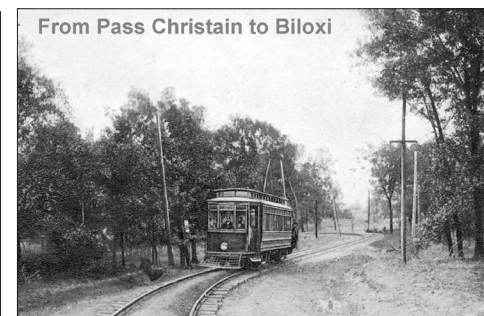
High Waters Caused Washouts at  
Long Beach and Piaggio Stop  
Necessitating Transferring.

The tracks of the Gulfport and Mississippi Coast Traction Company were washed out at Long Beach and the Piaggio stop as a result of the high waters caused by the presence of the tropical hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico during the past forty-eight hours and at the Piaggio stop it was necessary to transfer passengers traveling between Gulfport and Biloxi.

There was also a washout at the Hovey place and one at the Barret point near Gulfport but these were not of a serious nature. The one at the Lang place in Long Beach is the worst of the three and passengers were transferred up until a late hour today, the Piaggio damage having been repaired.

Manager W. A. Sullivan of the traction company was on the job during yesterday and today with a force of workmen and as fast as the tracks showed indications of being washed they were repaired with all speed. In places where the water was so high that the cross ties floated they were staked down and in this manner cars were allowed to pass over the tracks in safety. A broken rail was also included in the damage at Piaggio stop but this was repaired. Unless we have a more serious storm than anticipated the traction company will not suffer any material damage to their tracks between Biloxi, Gulfport and Pass Christian.

Gulfport and Mississippi Coast Traction Company officials announce that a right-of-way has been obtained for the extension of the traction line to Pass Christian, and that a force of men would be put to work at once to lay the tracks. The new right-of-way begins at Long Beach and parallels the Louisville and Nashville railroad. Traction cars have not been operated to Pass Christian since the storm of last fall, when its trackage along the beach was destroyed.



# Old Newspaper Clippings

1947

## Installation of Traffic Light Is Studied by Board

Among the propositions discussed Thursday night by the board of directors of the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce was the proposed installation of a traffic light at the foot of Jeff Davis avenue and the Beach. Oswald Favre, board president, said the installation of a traffic light at this point would be an added safety measure to both pedestrians and through traffic.

Five members were appointed to the industrial and planning committee. They were L. H. Coker, chairman; Billy Triplett, Homer Smith, Walter Jordan and R. O. Mitchell. Mr. Favre announced that appointments to two additional committees will be announced at the August board meeting. The committees are advertising and membership and dues.

Board members present were: Oswald Favre, president; Hugh Campbell, secretary; Walter Jordan, Billy Triplett and Tom Wilkerson. Oscar P. Wren was a visitor.

1924

A committee of the Long Beach board of aldermen met in this city with members of the firm of Shaw and Woleben, architects, to discuss plans for a new city hall for Long Beach to replace the one recently destroyed by the fire. The Long Beach committee having the matter in hand is composed of Ernest Miller, Oscar W. Quarles and J. R. Porter.

1925

## PLAN FOR ISLAND RESORT INVOLVES MILLIONS OUTLAY

BY GORDON HUFF

(The Times-Picayune Gulf Coast Bureau, Great Southern Hotel).

Gulfport, Miss., April 29.—Lee M. Russell, present owner of Cat Island, eight miles off the Long Beach coast, announced here tonight that plans are rapidly forming toward the expenditure of several millions in developing the island into a winter resort. The former governor said the project will be backed by Northern capitalists and announcement as to definite plans will be made in the near future.

The island, eight miles wide by fourteen long, was acquired by Mr. Russell last year. He said that he recently refused an offer of \$500,000 for the tract.

The island is large enough to accommodate two or three large resort hotels, and the land is so situated that excellent golf links can be constructed. The southern beach affords the best surf in Southern waters, while on the northern side a hard sand beach permits excellent bathing. Temperatures on the island during winter months is eight to ten degrees warmer than on the coast proper, affording a climate second to none on the North American continent.

Nationally-known engineers have surveyed the project, according to Mr. Russell, and report that the proposition is feasible in every sense of the word and it can be developed into one of the greatest playgrounds for pleasure-seekers in the world. Tentative plans, Mr. Russell said, are to keep the island intact for resort development. After hotels are established, surplus area will be sold to individuals for winter homes.

Mr. Russell is enthusiastic over the outlook for the successful development of the island, which will be the only resort in the United States offering both surf and beach bathing, shallow water and deep sea fishing and unexcelled shooting grounds for ducks and other wild fowl which come south during the winter months.

Cut Here

## MARY ELLEN ALEXANDER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The MARY ELLEN ALEXANDER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, presented by the LONG BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, recognizes individuals who during their lifetime have made significant contributions in increasing the awareness, preservation, and appreciation of history relating to Long Beach, the Mississippi Gulf Coast region, and the State of Mississippi.

The LONG BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY invites nominations for the MARY ELLEN ALEXANDER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. This award is presented annually at the January meeting of the society. Nominations must be received by October 31 to be considered that year. Nominations received after October 31 will be considered the following year.

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMARY OF NOMINEE'S LIFETIME ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS THAT MERIT THE AWARD (Please continue additional sheets as necessary and attach or reference supporting documentation that should be considered.)**

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail nominations to Long Beach Historical Society, P.O. Box 244, Long Beach, MS 39560



Long Beach Historical Society  
PO Box 244  
Long Beach, MS 39560-0244



Find more at [lbhistoricalsociety.org](http://lbhistoricalsociety.org)

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to our Sponsors!*



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**ROSAIE**



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