

AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER

www.passhistory.org • Post Office Box 58, Pass Christian MS 39571 • Society Building 201 East Scenic Drive
228 452-7254 • info@passhistory.org • Building typically open: Thursday-Friday-Saturday, 10-2 p.m.
Evening meetings at 7 p.m. on the 2nd Monday • Monthly luncheons are typically on the 4th Monday of the month.

August 1, 2013

Dear Friends & Members,

We are proud to say that the Historical Society has been accredited by the Mississippi Center for Non-Profits under its "Excellence in Action" (EIA) program. Over the past year, Evelina Shmukler, Mary Helen Schaeffer, Jack Kelly, Becky Orfila, Joy Burke, and I have attended several workshops conducted by the EIA program.

We were given a lengthy set of standards that had to be met to achieve accreditation. On Friday, July 26, Mary Tell, a representative from EIA interviewed us on the standards. After a two-hour session, Mary announced that we "passed" the interview with a score of 92.5%!

This accreditation gives us added legitimacy as a not-for-profit organization which will help us in our quest for grant money and other monies to fund our operation. It also made us aware of many elements of our operation that needed improvement. When you see the individuals' named above, give them a pat on the back for their hard work in helping to achieve accreditation.

In this newsletter we include information on our upcoming meetings and luncheons as well as a "bottle" workshop being conducted by Becky Orfila on August 14th.

Vay Carboni also asks that we remind you that September 6th is the deadline for ordering commemorative bricks, if you wish to have one installed in time for the holidays.

Finally we wish to point out that our building has a new sign (the anonymous gift of a member) that will be dedicated September 23.

Details on all these events appear below.

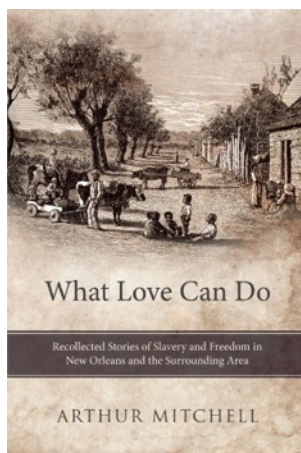
—Tom Shellnut, & the Board of Trustees



Sample bottles from the Miramar Collection. Left, 1940s vintage embossed John Paul Jones 1-pint Amber Whiskey Flask Bottle; Middle, currently undated, but very attractive old flask with an all over diamond or quilted pattern; Right, Woodbury cosmetics jar, slightly burned / melted. On Wednesday August 14 the Society will be holding a Bottle Workshop.

August Events

Monday, August 12: Monthly meeting, 7 p.m.



We welcome Gayle Nolan, editor of *What Love Can Do: Recollected Stories of Slavery and Freedom in the New Orleans and the Surrounding Area*. The stories, themselves, were written by Arthur Mitchell, a gifted chronicler: For example: "The man whose name this story bears was named at birth Henry Goody Jons after

his slave owner's father, the grandson of a French immigrant... whose mother... was bought off of the slave block at the Cabildo in New Orleans." A statement which becomes all the more poignant when we learn that Mitchell (1915-2002) is writing down these retold tales of his ancestors as he nears the end of a 40-year career at the *Cabildo*.

The Pass Christian Historical Society

Invites You to

**Make a Lasting Impression
For Your Family or Business
With an Engraved Brick**

4"x8" 1-3 Lines - \$100

8"x8" 1-5 Lines - \$200

Next Order Deadline September 6th

Contact us at

228-452-7254 or

www.passhistory.org

Equally fascinating is the way in which Ms Nolan came into possession of the only copy of the manuscript to survive Katrina. But we will let Gayle tell that story!

PCHS Bottle Workshop

9:00 am Wednesday, Aug 14 at the PCHS building

Our goals are to clean the bottles with water and dishwashing detergent, and record the significant features of each bottle. If you would like to participate, please join us!

Please wear cool, working clothes (you may get hot/wet/dirty) and bring your own drinks and snacks!

Please bring a bucket, a ruler or tape measure, and, if you have one, a bottle brush.

Gloves and recording materials will be provided. All bottles, of course, remain the property of the PCHS.

Monday, Aug 26: Monthly Luncheon,

12 noon. Marie Lamb, who is conducting a sundial program for the Library courtyard as well as working on a time capsule will speak about these two interesting projects and how you can become involved. Reservations are required for this luncheon meeting, and the price is \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members.

September Programs

Virgil Harris, our indefatigable program chairman, tells us we have these upcoming programs in September:

September 9th Night Meeting

—Topper Thompson will speak at the monthly meeting about government response to natural disasters.

September 23 Luncheon—Anne Leggett will speak about the Hecht Japanese Gardens.

Sept 6th PCHS Brick Program Order Deadline.

The Board of Directors has authorized a partial installation of Engraved Bricks to be installed on the Loggia of the building, along Scenic Drive.

If you have been considering an engraved brick to recognize your family, your business or a deceased loved one, this is an opportunity to place your order now and see your brick (s) set in place in just a few short weeks. Please see the above for details or contact Vay Carboni at 228 452 6302 or kcarboni@aol.com. To make this first installation, all orders must be submitted no later than September 6, 2013.

New Building Sign Dedication

The PCHS has acquired a sign for our building, which was designed by retired architect Fred Wagner of Bay St Louis. The cost of the sign has been donated by one of our members, who wishes to remain anonymous. We want to thank that member very much! **The dedication will be held during the September 23 Lunch Meeting** and we hope our membership will join us!

The Miramar Antique Bottles

By Becky Orfila

Shortly following the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, earthmoving activities uncovered a deposit of historical period bottles at the former site of the Miramar Nursing Home. Originally, this location was the home of 1830s period Pass Christian Hotel. Between that time and today, the same location hosted St. Mary's Pass Christian College, the New Magnolia Hotel, the Miramar Hotel, the Old South Motor Lodge, and the Miramar Nursing Village.

Approximately 200 complete bottles were recovered and deposited in an open area near the cell tower southeast of the intersection of Pine and North Streets. Dr. Dawley, owner of the business at that location, recognized the historical significance of the bottles and contacted the Pass Christian Historical Society. These interesting bottles have now become a short-term cleaning and identification project for PCHS!

What we can learn from analyzing Bottles!

In order to associate the bottles to particular time periods in Pass Christian's and the Miramar location's history, it is important to date the bottles. Three key elements help us discern the approximate date of manufacture, and subsequently, the relative date of usage: base type, chemicals used to color the glass, and the top closure mechanism. Manufacturers' marks tell us much about capitalism and trade.

