

MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

www.passhistory.org • Post Office Box 58, Pass Christian MS 39571 • Society Building 201 East Scenic Drive
228 452-7254 • info@passhistory.org • passchristian.wordpress.com • Building typically open: Thur. to Sat. 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.

March 9, 2016

Dear Friends & Members,

The next few months are busy times at the Historical Society. Wendy Allard has lined up an outstanding selection of talks, as well as special exhibits on the the Freedom Summer of 1964 and the horrendous Neshoba murders of Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner. And of course our Tour of Homes will soon be upon us.

In this issue we also ask all of you to support the Society in two simple ways:

1. Help eliminate the confusion at Monday Luncheons, by making your reservations early, and by understanding that without reservations you are not entitled to lunch.
2. If you have email, please switch the delivery of this newsletter from postal mail to email.

—Virgil Harris and the Board of Trustees

Upcoming Events

Monday, March 14, 7 p.m. Wendy Allard hosts a panel discussion concerning the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of the Historical Society. Panel members include Virgil Harris, Alicia Ellis and Tom Shellnut.

Monday Luncheon, March 28, noon The Biloxi Beach Wade In and the Civil Rights Movement on the Mississippi Gulf Coast A \$10 (\$12 non-members) admission fee, which includes lunch, is payable at the door. Please email president@passhistory.org to reserve, or call 228-452-7254 (feel free to leave a message). Please see **Policy Statement**

Pass Christian Historical Society's Tour of Homes • Sunday, May 1, 2016 • 2-5 p.m.

Beginning at 2 p.m. tour tickets may be purchased only at homes on tour. Homes may be toured in any order.



701 East Scenic Home of Carol and Burt Keenan. This home with its seven glass enclosed bays is an impressive interpretation of the coast's old vernacular style. You would not guess that to the immediate West once stood a boy's military academy and arsenal that was torched during an Union raid on Pass Christian during the Civil War.



701 East Scenic Cottage An important reminder of old Pass Christian is this cottage sitting behind the Keenan home. The cottage dates to the 1840s when it apparently served as a tutor's quarters. Later it was featured in *Along the Gulf* (Dyer, 1895) as the summer residence of C. A. Pardue and praised for its "old creole" style, and beautiful grounds.



715 East Scenic Home of Margaret and Cliff Laborde. The home (like its neighbor to the west) was constructed of the late 1840s, and until an early 20th century makeover (adding the octagonal porch element) is thought to have looked much like its western neighbor. This is the only surviving antebellum brick home. (A very early brick yard once stood a few hundred yards to the east.)



723 East Scenic Home of Bridget and Robert Bories. Post-Katrina construction evoking a county farm house style. An earlier home on this site hosted a U.S. Secretary of State. Happily that home was physically moved to 722 East Second Street in the 1960s, and is on tour directly behind this house.



722 East Second Home of Beverly and James Rafferty. This home stood at 723 Scenic from 1922 In the 1960s when it was physically moved to Second Street. Historical Society members will fondly remember it as the home of Dr. C.D. Taylor and the site of numerous Society Christmas parties.



Parking and Distances: All homes on this year's tour are practically adjacent and only short walk from one another. There should be plenty of parking along Scenic Dr., Hackett Lane, and Second St.

Save the Date for the Sunday May 1st-Historical Society Tour of Homes

Regarding Luncheon in this newsletter on the reverse side.

Monday, April 11th, 7p.m. "Voter March Across Mississippi/ Arrest at Woolworth Lunch Counter" with Bob Smith.

Monday Luncheon, April 25, noon "The History of Baseball on the MS Gulf Coast" with Gary Higginbotham.

Sunday, May 1, Tour of Homes, 2-5 p.m. Due to the Tour there is no Monday night meeting in May.

Monday Luncheon, May 23, noon "Fundamentals of Archaeology and Local Artifacts and Excavations" with Edmund Boudreaux of the Gulf Coast Archaeological Society.

February 22 - April 22. Freedom Summer Displays At Library and Historical Society

In 1964, Freedom Summer made Mississippi the central battleground of the Civil Rights Movement. Hundreds of northern students, most of them white, joined black Mississippians to register voters, conduct Freedom Schools, and promote civil rights. Throughout the summer, project staff endured threats, arrests, beatings, bombings, and murder. "Stand Up-Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964" looks at the events of that memorable and violent summer. This special exhibit will be on display at the Pass Christian Public Library from February 22nd through April 22nd. The companion exhibit "Murder in Neshoba" examines the disappearance and murder of three civil rights workers in Neshoba County. That exhibit will be on display at the Pass Christian Historical Society from March 1st through April 22nd.

This traveling exhibit, produced by the Museum Division of the Mississippi

Department of Archives and History, is accompanied by an original film incorporating historic film footage taken during the summer of 1964 as well as Educating for Democracy, a collection of primary source documents related to Freedom Summer.

The "Stand Up" exhibit will be open Monday through Saturday during regular library hours (8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday) and during special events. The "Murder in Neshoba" exhibit will be open during Historical Society functions and by appointment. To learn more you can email at w.allard@harrison.lib.ms.us or you can call the Pass Christian Public Library at 228-452-4596. Thanks to the Friends of the Pass Christian Library for paying the transportation cost to bring us this exhibit.

Three Ways to Support the Tour

The Historical Society's Tour of Homes on May 1 this year will be exceptional. We have four beautiful homes all within walking distance of each other with a very interesting mix of old and new, reflecting our distinctive coastal style. For this event to be a real success, we need the support of all our members. You can be involved in several ways:

1) **Buy a ticket in advance** for \$25. We have made it easy to either buy online, at the Cat Island coffee house or at some of our meetings. You can even buy up until 2pm that day at the yacht club. *Note: tickets not purchased in advance are \$30 (for both members and nonmembers).*

2) **Help spread the word.** There is no better advertising than word of mouth. Please contact your family and friends from Mobile to New Orleans and up to Hattiesburg, McComb and Jackson. If

you want to send them some information, contact Anita Giani (anita_giani@yahoo.com) and she will send you a one-page flier you can send to them. Encourage them to make a day of it and have brunch at our yacht club. (Reservations strongly recommended. Call 228-452-2571)

3) **Volunteer.** We need workers to help bring food and/or work in the kitchen. We need helpers to collect tickets and money at the door. Contact Susan McClellan (228-222-3642) or Clayton Hardy (228-493-1565) for the food effort, and Anita Giani (228-452-5969) for the door support.

Policy Statement Regarding Luncheon Meetings

The success of the Monday lunch is very gratifying and the Board is delighted with the attendance. However, that has created a problem. The problem is that we cannot feed all who have been showing up because it takes some lead time to prepare the food. The problem is compounded by the fact that some walk-ins are being served and those with reservations do not get a lunch. To remedy this problem, the Board has adopted the following policy. *Food will be prepared only for those who make reservations by 3 PM on the Friday just prior to the luncheon meeting.* And because of the seating capacity, the total number of reservations will be limited to 40. This does not preclude walk-ins from attending. *Should you make a reservation, you must claim your lunch by Noon or you risk the possibility of it being served to a walk-in guest.*

Please note: attendance at the monthly luncheon is \$10 (\$12 non members). This fee applies to reservations as well as walk-ins. And whether you have lunch or not. So please make reservations early.

Get this Newsletter via email.

If you have the capability to receive the Society newsletter via email, I encourage you to do so since it costs the value of several memberships a year to print them and send them by U. S. mail. If you are willing to do that, please contact us at our email address and supply us with your current email address. That way you will never miss a newsletter even when you are out of town. Even if you move to another location, you will still be able to receive the newsletter through your email address without interruption. If you do not have an email address, we will continue to send it to you by U. S. mail.