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A PUBLICATION OF THE WEST BATON ROUGE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
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"The purpose of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association shall be to foster interest in history, particularly that of West Baton Rouge Parish, and to encourage and pursue research, collection and preservation of materials illustrating past or present activities of the parish."

MALAIKA FAVORITE SPEAKS AT THE ETHEL CLAIBORNE DAMERON LECTURE SERIES

Cohn High School Historic Marker Dedicated
Pictured at the Cohn High School Historic Marker Dedication on December 3, 2018 are Angelique Bergeron, Ruth Cohn Bilbe, Brian Falcon, David Couvillion, Ida Pierre, and Wilhemenia DeCuir. Ruth Cohn Bilbe is the granddaughter of Dr. Isadore Cohn, Sr. who donated the land for the school in 1949.

Malaika Favorite, center, entertained the audience with her washboard art work and poetry at the annual Ethel Claiborne Dameron Lecture on October 21 at the West Baton Rouge Museum. Pictured from left are Angelique Bergeron, Museum Director; Kathe Hambrick, Exhibits Coordinator; Evva Wilson, co-chair; and Jeannie Luckett, Education Curator and co-chair. The lecture series is held each year in memory of Ethel Claiborne Dameron, founder of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association and West Baton Rouge Museum.

The Accessions Committee of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association reviewed items pertinent to West Baton Rouge history at their October 22 meeting at the Museum. Pictured standing from left are Babs Babin, Brian Falcon, Elizabeth Brantley, Curator of Collections; and Gary Hart. Other committee members seated are: Wilhemenia DeCuir, Lorry Trotter, and Ruth Stanley. The West Baton Rouge Historical Association owns the collection of artifacts housed at the Museum.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
The 51st Annual Meeting of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2019 at the West Baton Rouge Museum in Port Allen.

Your annual meeting notice and proxy form will be mailed to you shortly. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please complete and return the form to the West Baton Rouge Historical Association, 845 North Jefferson Avenue, Port Allen, LA 70767.

Thank you for your continued participation in the West Baton Rouge Historical Association.
FROM OUR PRESIDENT
AROUND OUR ASSOCIATION

Season's Greetings! Like many of you, I often ask myself how has 2018 slipped by so quickly. In today's world, we are all so busy doing "life", however, it's important at this time of year to reflect on the people and events that have brought us the most joy and fill us with appreciation.

As I look back on the events and accomplishments during 2018 for the WBR Historical Association, we could not have succeeded in any of our endeavors without the great work of our many volunteers, Board members and dedicated museum staff. The collective efforts of everyone mentioned above prove the idea of "strength in numbers". It's been most rewarding to watch all of these dedicated individuals work together, not because they had to, but because they are passionate and enjoy giving to the historical treasures and preservation of the institution known as West Baton Rouge!

Our association year had many highlights, but none more significant than the celebration of our Golden Anniversary----50 years! We were able to host a joyous Gala to celebrate the event, and see many "Treasures from the Collection", opening our vault to display items never seen before. One thing is certain----our Association and West Baton Rouge Museum have great momentum and all the tools in place to make another 50 successful years!

This year's SugarFest was a wonderful event as always. The Museum grounds were filled with many smiling faces, food, and fun for the entire community to see. We look forward to next year and know it will be our best one yet!

Although this is my final Association President letter for 2018, it will not be my last. I've been graciously asked to serve the West Baton Rouge Historical Association again in 2019 as its President, and I accepted the nomination without hesitation. Please join us at our Annual Meeting in January, as the Association maps out the year ahead. I look forward to 2019, all that it has in store, and hope you consider being involved.

As always, please encourage your friends and neighbors to join us whenever they can. We want everyone to come and see the excitement and experience the wonders of the Museum. For any information, please call Alice LeBlanc at the West Baton Rouge Museum at (225) 336-2422 or email leblanc@wbrmuseum.org. On behalf of the WBR Historical Association, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Drew Maciasz

WEST BATON ROUGE MUSEUM

From Our Director

Dear friends,

We have so much to be thankful for and proud of in 2018, including celebrating 50 years of history with the WBR Historical Association, debuting new school tours, developing new permanent exhibits, securing new grants and partnerships, and hosting blockbuster programs such as SugarFest, the Rum Revelry, the grand opening of our Juke Joint exhibit, launching our blacksmith apprenticeship program, and of course our 50th anniversary gala. We are proud of the exhibits curated in-house this year, Créoles du Monde, Rural Engineuity, and Treasures of the Collection, and we are particularly proud of the beautiful gallery guide that accompanied our 50th anniversary exhibit thanks to the generous support of the Historical Association.

And you better believe we have big plans for 2019 as well! Look for an impressive collection of art and sculpture never before seen in Louisiana, The Square Collection, set to open on January 19th with an opening reception at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 20th. Starting in February, the Brick Gallery will feature a rotation of exhibits drawn from the WBR Historical Association's permanent collection. First up is The Ferries of West Baton Rouge, a favorite topic for so many in our community. Check our calendar for the schedule of great lectures, readings, and workshops planned to accompany these exhibits, including a new partnership with the Oshner Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at LSU which will offer a class on Movement in Art and Music here at the West Baton Rouge Museum.

April will bring a traveling exhibit, Through Darkness to Light: Photographs Along the Underground Railroad, which will be supplemented by Kathe Hambrick's research with Dr. Gwendolyn Midlo Hall, the leading authority on Louisiana's colonial records. This summer, we will celebrate scouting history with Prepared for Life: The Boy and Girl Scouts of America, curated by Elizabeth Brantley, who has already begun gathering artifacts for this exhibit. Please reach out if you have anything to share! We plan to open this exhibit with "Stories Around the Campfire" a reunion for past and current Boy and Girl Scouts of our region (Details to follow in the next edition of the Écoutes). We continue to work with partners such as the National WWII Museum to host the regional competition for National History Day (NHD), which this year will be held on March 23rd. Please let us know if you are interested in serving as a judge or volunteer or participating as a student or teacher for NHD! Also, in the spring, look for our second annual Eggsstravaganza on April 14th, which is put on in partnership with the WBR Parish Library.

We hope to see you at the museum!

Angélique Bergeron

[Image: A woman's signature]
SUGARFEST 2018
October 7, 2018
Curator's Corner:
December 2018

What makes a collector want to spend so much time and money on fine art? This was one of the questions Kathe Hambrick set out to have answered when she visited the home of Lawrence and Gay Square. Lawrence's reply was simple and matter of fact, "I buy what I like."

Fine art is described as art that is created solely for its aesthetic beauty. In the case of THE SQUARE COLLECTION, which opens January 19th and runs through March 24th, it is much more than that. This art was created to be appreciated for its beauty, as well as its cultural and historical significance.

THE SQUARE COLLECTION includes sculptures, prints and paintings by renowned artists such as Jacob Lawrence, Charles Bibbs, John Scott, and Tina Allen. Visitors may find a few of the pieces familiar from popular television shows where they were carefully placed on the sets of 227, Hill Street Blues, Akeelah and the Bee and the daytime drama, Generations. You won't want to miss the opening reception and gallery talk on Sunday, January 20th at 2:00 p.m.

Our summer 2019 exhibit PREPARED FOR LIFE will explore the world of Scouting! Our Juke Joint building served as the Scout Hut for Boy Scout Troop 38 for 60 years. Many artifacts from this rich history were saved by the museum when the building was donated. PREPARED FOR LIFE will tell the stories of locals who learned valuable life skills and made lasting friendships in Boy and Girl Scouts of America Troops.

The WBR Historical Association permanent collection holds many Scouting related artifacts, but more are needed to tell the complete story of Scouting in West Baton Rouge. If you have uniforms, photographs, handbooks or Scout related stories to tell, contact Elizabeth Brantley at Elizabeth@wbrmuseum.org or call 225-336-2422 x206 so we can include your Scout in the exhibit that opens on June 8, 2019.

SugarFest Sweets Contest Winners Named
A variety of sweets was entered in the annual Sweets Contest at the October 7, 2018 SugarFest. Categories included cookies, cakes, and candies. The winners in the cookie competition were: Dorene Mayeux (4th from the left), 1st place, Bridget Carpenter, 2nd place; and Demetria Bell, 3rd place. Taking honors in the cake competition were Theresa Rizzuto, 1st place and Mary Acosta, 2nd place. In the candy competition Demetria Bell won first place; Ruth Stanley (2nd from the left), 2nd place; and Toni Brantley (far right), 3rd place. Dorene Mayeux was the grand prize winner in overall competition.

2019 Membership Dues Are Now Due
Make check payable to: WBRHA
Mail to:
West Baton Rouge Historical Association
845 North Jefferson, Port Allen, LA 70767
See Membership form on the last page for dues amount.

CALL FOR JUDGES
GREAT BATON ROUGE REGIONAL NATIONAL HISTORY DAY COMPETITION AT THE WEST BATON ROUGE MUSEUM

WBR Museum is hosting the Greater Baton Rouge Regional National History Day Contest on Saturday, March 23, 2019. Judges are needed to interview middle and high school students competing with research papers, performances, documentaries, websites, and exhibits. Judges may be college students, professionals, or retirees. To volunteer, call 225-336-2422 Ext. 205 or visit: https://www.nationalww2museum.org/students-teachers/school-programs/national-history-day.

Veterans on Parade Ceremony, November 4, at the WBR Museum
Pictured above are Roger Arnold, Garrett Graves, and Kenneth Altazan in the Picturing Nam exhibit following the Veterans on Parade Ceremony.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 14 - 1:30 p.m. - WBRHA Annual Meeting

January 16 - 12:30 p.m. - American Creed: Community Conversations Documentary Screening and Discussion - A screening of the PBS Documentary at the WBR Museum followed by a discussion led by Dr. Courtney Brown from LSU's National Writing Project. FREE. Feel free to bring a Brown Bag Lunch.

January 19 - March 24 - EXHIBIT - The Square Collection - A display of fine art from some of America's most distinguished artists including twenty figurative sculptures by the internationally renowned sculptor, Tina Allen and paintings and prints by many other acclaimed artists.

January 20 - Exhibit Opening and Reception, 2:00 p.m. - Enjoy a Gallery Talk with collector, Lawrence Square, a live dance performance, and refreshments. FREE

January 23 - 12:30 p.m. - American Creed: Community Conversations Panel Discussion - Hear panelists who were part of the fight for the right of African Americans to vote in WBR Parish during the Civil Rights Movement. FREE. Feel free to bring a Brown Bag Lunch.

January 30 - Noon - Lunchtime Lecture - 'I Just Buy What I Like' - Backstories of the Lawrence Square Black Art Collection with Dr. Joyce Marie Jackson - a lecture and brief conversation with collector, Lawrence Square. FREE. Feel free to bring a Brown Bag Lunch.

January 30 - 12:30 p.m. - American Creed: Community Conversations Writing Workshop at West Baton Rouge Parish Library - Participants attending the previous American Creed film screening and panel discussion programs are invited to meet to reflect and respond to the American Creed program experience through writing and discussion led by Dr. Courtney Brown. FREE.

February 1 - 1:00 p.m. - Le Café Français - Gratuit.

February 6 - Noon - Lunchtime Lecture - Poetry Reading with Artist & Poet John K. Lawson - FREE. Feel free to bring a Brown Bag Lunch.

February 7 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Collage and Poetry Workshop with John K. Lawson - FREE. Space is limited and advanced registration is required by calling (225) 336-2422 Ext. 200.

February 9 - 10:00 a.m. - Noon - Meet Me under the Poet Tree with John K. Lawson - Sign up to participate in a family creative writing workshop led by a renowned poet and artist. Space is limited, To register, call 225-336-2422 Ext. 200.

February 18 - April 1 - OLLI on consecutive Mondays (excluding March 4) - In celebration of the Square Collection exhibit and permanent installation, our Juke Joint exhibit, this course will explore Movement in Art and Music through a series of six classes. This program is open to Oschner Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) members. For membership and registration information, call 225.578.2500 or visit www.outreach.lsu.edu/Enrichment/OLLI-at-LSU.


March 1 - 1:00 p.m. - Le Café Français - Gratuit.

March 7-9 - Dulcimer Fête

March 14 - Noon - 1:00 p.m. - Lunchtime Lecture, How to Weed Your Attic with Dr. Elizabeth Dow - When people need help deciding what to keep and what to discard in their own homes or those of their families. What has historical significance and what is nostalgic. FREE. Feel free to bring a Brown Bag Lunch.

March 23 - Greater Baton Rouge Regional National History Day Contest - Student and judges' registration is now open www.louisianahistoryday.org for this competition that will be held at WBR Museum. Finalists will move on to state at the National WWII Museum in April and potentially to Nationals in D.C. this summer!

CURRENT LIST OF FRIENDS

Mrs. Carolyn Corona Achee
Thomas W. Acosta, Jr.
Patricia L. Alford
American Sugar Cane League
Mary Arrasmith / Katie Heck
Babs Babin and Family
Joyce & Kenneth Barbier
Marlene Benedetto, Benedetto's/Hubben's Grocery
Claire Bergeron
Lorraine & Gordon Bergeron
Carolyn Blanchard
Mike & Pat Blanchard
Sue & Sid Blanchard
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Bonanno
Barry & Susan Brewer
Kim & Kerry Callegan
Kym & Tony Cashiola
Jim & Mary Helen Charleville
Mrs. Dudley W. Coates
Cou-yon's BBQ-Port Allen
Criterion Catalysts & Technologies, L.P.
Glen Daigle
Russell & Peggy Daigle
Z. Dave Deloach
Chad & Ashley Doiron
The Dow Chemical Company
Ann Neal Dugas & Family
Linda Lowe Erley
Don & Marie Favrot
William H. Forman, Jr.
Scott & Kay Gaudin
Ellis Gauthier & Family
Sara & George "Skipper" Grady
Rose Marie Gray
Jeff Guidry/Edward Jones
Lee & Michelle Hart
Holy Family Catholic Church
Garry Hubble Family
Ken & Cindy Kahao
Mr. & Mrs. William Kleinpeter
Stacy & Matthew Krebs
Janice Kitchens/Anita Melancon
LA Farm Bureau Federation
Lagniappe Dulcimer Society
Mim & Najma Landry
Harry L. Laws Co., Inc.
Dorene & Dale Mayeux
Modernnaires Dance Club
Carlyn Morales
Myles & Myles, Attorney-at-Law
Andrea & Joey Normand
J. Huntington Odom, Jr., DDS
Dr. Philip G. Padgett
Al & Brenda Parker
Placid Refinery
Rod Prejean & Associates
Skip & Laura Rhorer
River View Development
James & Theresa Rizutto
Edana Robnett
Debra & Ronnie Salvadars
Claire Sarradet
Janet Simoneaux
Bob & Connie Smith
Sneaux Balls on the Geaux
Bobby & Ruth Stanley
Eleanor Favrot Stevens
Clay Stewart/State Farm Insurance
Debra Jones Tarter
Mike & Ellen Tauzin
Lorry & Bill Trotter
Al & Cathy Troy
Margot G. Turk
Pam Walsh *
J. Kenneth Washington
Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Weldon
West Baton Rouge Chamber
West Baton Rouge CDB
West Baton Rouge Garden & Civic Club
West Side Women's Club
Doug & Anna Wilkinson

Welcome New Members

New Friends:
Pam Walsh

New Members:
Landess Hebert

New Student:
Mary DuBoulay

* Denotes New Friends Member
Donations were received for the following Memorial Funds:

**Acquisitions Memorial Fund**
Dr. Elizabeth "Betty" Safford Hawkins – Babs Babin

**Ethel Claiborne Dameron Memorial Fund**

**General Memorial Fund**

**Museum Memorial Fund**
Ms. Eleanor Favrot – Wayne & Carolyn Achee’
Ms. Sharon Couvillon – WBR Museum Staff

**Frank Carruth III Children’s Fund**
Lucas Dipuma, Sr. – Erwinville Homemakers Club

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WBR HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL DONATION FORM

Please fill out the form, enclose your donation made payable to the West Baton Rouge Historical Association in an envelope and mail to: West Baton Rouge Historical Association, 845 N. Jefferson Avenue, Port Allen, LA 70767. Only one acknowledgment card will be sent per donation. Thank you.

FROM: ____________________________

IN MEMORY OF: ____________________________

PLEASE MAIL CARD TO: ____________________________

ADDRESS: ____________________________

NOTE: Place an (X) next to the Memorial Fund to which you wish to send your donation.

ACQUISITIONS FUND _______ ETHEL CLAIBORNE DAMERON FUND _______
GENERAL FUND _______ MUSEUM MEMORIAL FUND _______
FRANK CARRUTH III CHILDREN’S FUND _______ (make checks payable to WBR Museum for this fund)

The WBR Historical Association is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. All gifts are tax exempt. Thank you for supporting the WBR Historical Association.

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Membership Form – 2019

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Email Address: ____________________________
Telephone: ____________________________

Please check the membership category you wish to join.

Student $10.00 _______ Friends $100.00 _______
(businesses/individuals)
Member $20.00 _______ Patrons $35.00 _______
(individuals) (families/individuals)

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