



Écoutez



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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."

West Baton Rouge Museum Awarded \$50,000 Grant from the National Parks Service

The U.S. Department of the Interior and the National Park Service has announced \$12.6 million in grants for 51 projects in 24 states that preserve sites and highlight stories related to the African American struggle for equality in the 20th century. The **West Baton Rouge Museum** is honored to be among the recipients and will use the \$50,000 grant to develop *Cuttin' Cane A'int All We Do: From Slavery to Civil Rights in Rural Louisiana*. This tour, which takes visitors through several of the historic structures on the West Baton Rouge Museum's six-acre campus, highlights local contributions to engineering innovations, education, social progress, and music - because music is the ultimate expression of freedom. The funds will be used to research and produce tour videos, as well as bring electricity and interactive displays to several of the museum's historic structures.

"An integral part of the Interior and National Park Service mission is to help preserve and tell America's story," said U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke. "These grants will benefit places across the nation that help tell an essential piece of that story through the African American struggle for civil rights and equality."

"Through the work and engagement of public and private partners, these grants will preserve a defining part of our nation's diverse history," National Park Service Deputy Director Dan Smith said. "By working with local communities to preserve these historic places and stories, we will help tell a more complete narrative of the African American experience in the pursuit of civil rights."

Congress appropriated funding for the African American Civil Rights Grants Program in 2016 through the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). The HPF uses revenue from federal oil leases on the Outer Continental Shelf, providing assistance for a broad range of preservation projects without expending tax dollars. For the second year of this grants program, Congress increased funding from \$8 million to \$13 million in 2017.

West Baton Rouge Historical Association 2018 Membership dues are now due

Please send your check to: WBRHA

845 North Jefferson, Port Allen, LA 70767

See Membership form on the last page for dues amount



Pictured above are WBRHA Historic Preservation Committee members who attended the February 23rd committee meeting. From left are Ellis Gauthier, Brian Falcon, Babs Babin, and Angelique Bergeron, Museum Director.

WBRHA Historic Preservation Committee Discusses Parish Marker Program

Brian Falcon, chairman of the Historic Preservation Committee, discussed issues involving damage to current historic markers by parish mowers and possible solutions at their February 23 meeting at the WBR Museum. The Committee agreed to replace the Allendale Plantation marker that was damaged by mowing equipment. The parish will assist with the new marker and the Historic Preservation Committee will revise the original text and include additional information for a more conciliatory tone.

Additionally the committee has offered to assist Cinclare to repaint its historic marker.

The Calumet marker was damaged again and the committee will investigate the cause.

The committee discussed future marker projects including the old settlement of Morley and sites in the northern part of the parish.

Currently there are 25 historic markers in West Baton Rouge Parish that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Cohn High School marker will be installed once the new school is built in 2019.

In addition to Falcon, committee members include Babs Babin, Mary Bennett, David Couvillon, Glen DeMourelle, Ellis Gauthier, Drew Maciasz, and Lorry Trotter.



Drew Maciasz
WBR Historical Association
Board President

FROM OUR PRESIDENT AROUND OUR ASSOCIATION

Greetings! It's an honor and privilege to serve as the 2018 President of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association. I have a great personal interest in the preservation of our area's rich culture and historical significance.....what we have here in West Baton Rouge is one of a kind and I know so many others in our great association feel the same!



About me....I am a native of nearby New Roads, LA in Pointe Coupee Parish, but have been a resident of West Baton Rouge for the last 18 years. I am a graduate of Louisiana State University and have a background in business and finance. I am President of Harry L. Laws & Company in Brusly, LA, former operators of the Cinclare Sugar Mill and have worked there for 6 years. I have been married for nearly 17 years to my wife, Amanda, and we have three amazingly wonderful AND busy children: John (12), Meredith (10), and Sarah (8).

In my short time being involved with the WBR Historical Association, it did not take long to realize how dedicated of a group we have to represent our association. The Association is led by a fantastic slate of board members that work tirelessly to raise money and awareness for West Baton Rouge's historical treasures. In addition, our organization would not be what it is today without the passion and leadership from the staff of the WBR Museum. Led by its Executive Director, Angelique Bergeron, she and her staff do a phenomenal job hosting unique exhibits, education lectures, and student camps, to display the treasures of

West Baton Rouge and illustrate its rich culture and traditions.

There are so many wonderful events for our association friends to take advantage of this coming year. Not to mention.....all of the wonderful programs the museum has on its schedule. Already in 2018 we've celebrated in the Mardi Gras spirit with the *Rum Revelry*, highlighting Carnival and *Creole du Monde*. On April 6th, plan to join the association and museum for the exciting opening of the "Juke Joint" historic structure, celebrating a new piece of the museum and blues music roots home-grown in West Baton Rouge.

The highlight of our association year will be the celebration of our Golden Anniversary...50 years! We've experienced so much success over the years, collected so many wonderful things, assisted by so many wonderful volunteers; we have to celebrate. On August 18, 2018, the museum opens the exhibit, *Golden Anniversary: Treasures from the Collection*. In honor of the Museum's 50th Anniversary, the Historical Association is opening the vault to display objects from its collection, some never seen before. In conjunction with the Golden Treasures exhibit, the association is hosting an evening gala to celebrate 50 years...it's sure to be a momentous event and we hope you can come to share in this celebration.

As said, we could not accomplish anything without the great work of our volunteers and dedicated museum staff. Please join us at our events, tell a friend about us, and we'll welcome you with open arms to experience the historical riches we have in West Baton Rouge. Let's have great year...we've got so much to celebrate.

Sincerely,

Drew

Drew Maciasz

Where history has a name.



WEST BATON ROUGE MUSEUM



Angelique Bergeron
West Baton Rouge
Museum Director

From Our Director



Bonjour mes amis,

Our 50th anniversary year is off to a big start!

The *Créoles du Monde* exhibit and the opening Rum Revelry have been extremely well received. We successfully piloted several new tours and we are getting ready for our Juke Joint exhibit grand opening, a tribute to Slim Harpo, on April 6th. Entertainment includes living legends Henry Gray and Carol Fran along with tomorrow's legends Carter Wilkinson and the Riverside

Blues Band and Rudy "Trey" Richard, III. We will be honoring our supporters and volunteers, frying fish and serving up Juke Joint beer from Tin Roof Brewing Company and the all new "Baby Scratch My Back" cocktail invented just for us by Cane Land Distilling Company. All are welcome. You won't want to miss it!

As if that wasn't enough... The U.S. Department of the Interior and the National Park Service has announced \$12.6 million in grants for 51 projects in 24 states that preserve sites and high-

light stories related to the African American struggle for equality in the 20th century. The West Baton Rouge Museum is honored to be among the recipients and will use the \$50,000 grant awarded to us to develop *Cuttin' Cane Ain't All We Do: From Slavery to Civil Rights in Rural Louisiana*. This tour, which takes visitors through several of the historic structures on the West Baton Rouge Museum's six-acre campus, highlights local contributions to engineering innovations, education, social progress, and music - because music is the ultimate expression of freedom. The funds will be used to research and produce short films, as well as bring electricity and interactive displays to several of the museum's historic structures.

The West Baton Rouge Historical Association and West Baton Rouge Museum have grand plans for our Golden Anniversary. With so much going on around here, we hope to see you at the museum!

Mesi pou tou ki choz,
(Thanks for everything)

Angelique

Angélique Bergeron, PhD





Janice Hebert

WBR Historical Association Volunteer

A lifelong resident of Brusly, Janice Hebert is serving her second term on the West Baton Rouge Historical Association Board of Directors. She served as treasurer in 2016 and secretary in 2017.

A graduate of Brusly High School, she attended LSU for 1-1/2 years and then worked one summer at The Advocate newspaper and subsequently was offered a fulltime job there. She started in the dispatch department first and then moved into display sales.

Janice loved dealing with people and helping them grow their businesses. She spent 17 years as Sales Manager of the Display Advertising Department and was in charge of Special Sections such as the Town of Brusly's 100th Anniversary Celebration in 2001. This was her favorite to work on since it featured photos and stories of people and places important to the history and growth of Brusly. The 5-day celebration included an exhibit at the West Baton Rouge Museum, a tour of old

homes, a parade, bands, a 65 and older day as well as other activities. In her role at The Advocate, Janice worked closely with the East Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce, West Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce, Nature Conservancy, United Way, and West Baton Rouge Historical Association.

Janice and her husband, Joel, love living in Brusly. They are parents of two grown children, Drew and Brooke, and also have two grandchildren. One of her pleasures in life includes traveling out west, especially to Colorado, several times during the year.

She is a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and its Bereavement and Hospital Visitation Committees. Additionally she is also a member of the Catholic Daughters and West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit.

Janice is a valued volunteer in all activities and the West Baton Rouge Historical Association is proud to have her as a board member.

Curators' Corner

Be sure to mark your calendar and get your dancing shoes ready as we prepare to unveil the new permanent Juke Joint exhibit.



Kathe Hambrick
Exhibits Curator

This new exhibit will interpret the rich blues heritage of West Baton Rouge and highlight the careers of local legends such as Slim Harpo, Rafal Neal, and many more. The grand opening event will offer an authentic juke joint experience with great food and even better music by Henry Gray and Carol Fran, Carter Wilkinson and the Riverside Blues Band and Rudy "Trey" Richard, III. This event will be held on Friday, April 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

As 2018 rolls on, the curatorial team is at work planning and curating the next two in-house exhibits. *Rural Engineuity* will debut on May 19th and will tell the story of the inventions and people who shaped the way agricultural processes transformed in the rural south. Among the inventors featured are Leonard Julian, who invented a sugar cane planting machine. Julian, a native of Iberville Parish developed this machine after realizing there had to be a better way to plant sugarcane. The West Baton Rouge Museum is excited to be the permanent home of one of Leonard Julian's cane planter, watch for this installation on our grounds this summer. If you have any artifacts



Elizabeth Brantley
Curator of Collections

or photos that document Louisiana agricultural past please contact a member of the curatorial team.

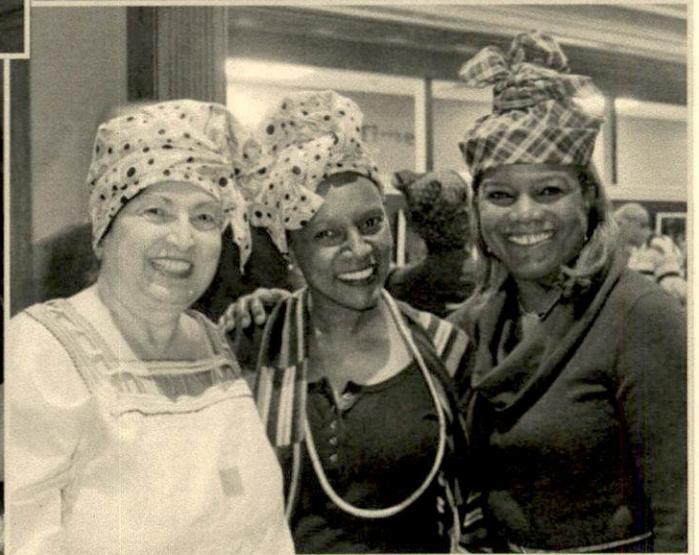
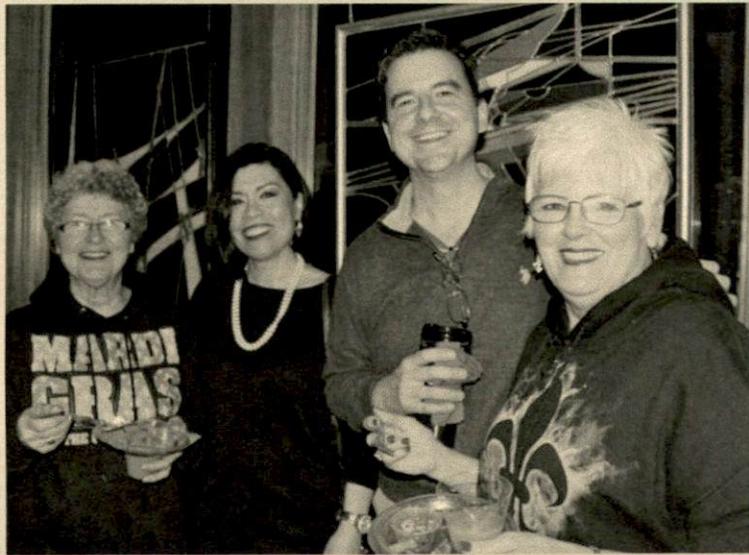
The museum is also still accepting donations for artifacts that will be featured in our Golden Anniversary exhibit opening in August. If you have a treasure that you've been considering donating now is the time. This exhibit will tell the story of the founding of the museum and feature artifacts from our vault that shows the diversity of our collection. Your donations allow us to expand our research and documentation of local history through exhibition and interpretation. We are hoping to grow our collection in the following areas for upcoming exhibits: Vietnam War era, rural/agriculture, and clothing/textiles. Contact Curator of Collections, Elizabeth Brantley at 225-336-2422 x 12 to discuss possible donations.

2018 Historical Association Board of Directors

		2018 Officers
Babs Babin	Janice Hebert	President
Joyce Barbier	Garry Hubble	Drew Maciasz
Jane Brou	Dorene Mayeux	Vice President
David Couvillion	Andrea Normand	Mary Bennett
Wilhemenia DeCuir	Ida Pierre	Secretary
Glen E. DeMourelle	Ruth Stanley	Janet Simoneaux
Brian Falcon	Evva L.Z. Wilson	Treasurer
Ellis Gauthier	Lorry Trotter, Ex Officio	Glen Daigle

Rum Revelry

The West Baton Rouge Museum held a Rum Revelry, opening reception for the *Créoles du Monde* exhibit on Thursday, February 1st with entertainment from Casa Samba, Cane Land Rum, a tignon salon, and cigar rolling demonstrations from the Cigar Factory of New Orleans.



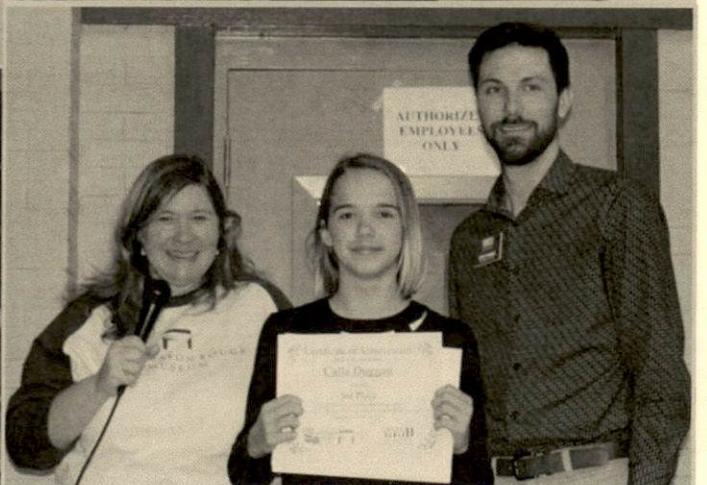
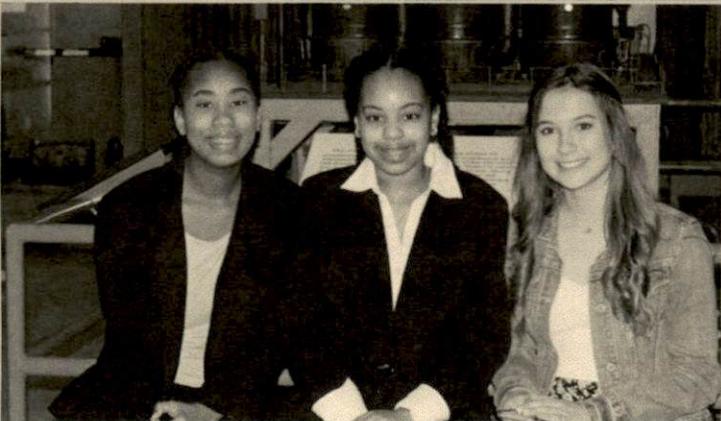
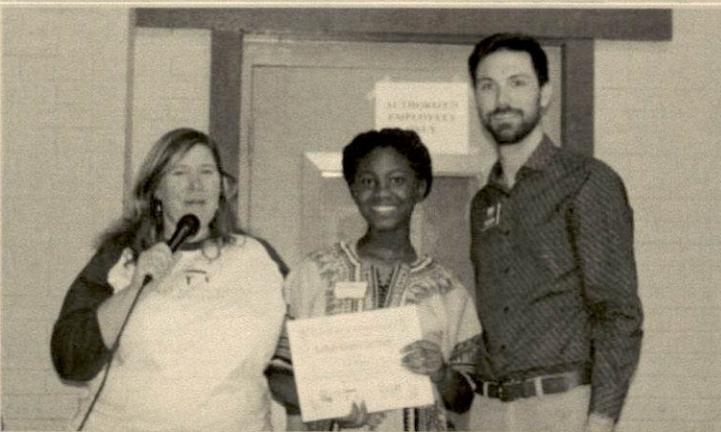
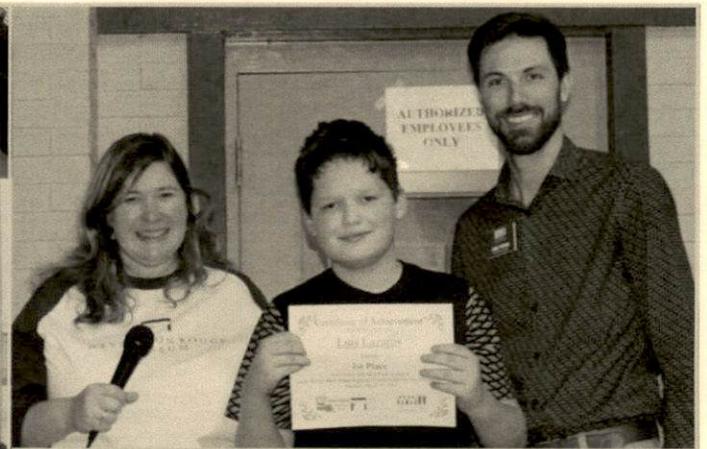
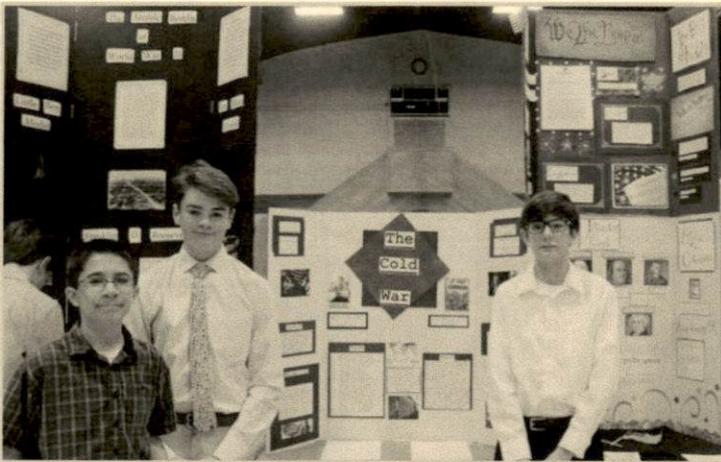
West Baton Rouge Museum Hosts National History Day Contest

The West Baton Rouge Museum welcomed teachers, students and judges on Saturday, March 3, 2018 to participate in the Greater Baton Rouge National History Day Contest. This competition is a highly regarded academic program for middle and high school students with the support of prominent institutions such as the History Channel, The Smithsonian, and the National World War II Museum. Each year, more than half a million students nationwide participate in the National History Day competition. It's an exciting learning opportunity that cultivates an interest in history and encourages critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Students from a twelve parish region were invited to compete as individuals or in groups by choosing a topic and doing research that addresses the theme, "Conflict and Compromise in History." Students presented their findings in one of five different categories: *exhibit, research paper, performance, documentary, or web site*. Students placing 1st – 4th in each category will advance to the state competition at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans in April, and potentially to the national level in Washington, D.C. in June where students compete for scholarships and cash prizes.

The Greater Baton Rouge Regional competition was open to public, private, and home school students from the following parishes: Iberville, Pointe Coupee, East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, West Feliciana, St. Helena, Livingston, Ascension, Assumption, St. James and Tangipahoa.

This was the seventh year that the West Baton Rouge Museum hosted the regional National History Day competition. For more information about National History Day, visit www.nhd.org.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 6 – Juke Joint Grand Opening & Volunteer Appreciation Party - The public is invited to this celebration featuring the opening of the museum's newest permanent exhibit complete with a special recognition of our volunteers and live Blues music by the Riverside Blues Band accompanied by Rudolph "Trey" Richard, III and the legendary Henry Gray and Carol Fran.

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, & May 11, 10:00 a.m. - Noon - The Creole Identity & Experience in Louisiana Literature and History –A Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities reading discussion group with **Dr. Olivia Pass**. Readings include Cane River by Lalita Tademy, Creole: The History and Legacy of Louisiana's Free People of Color by Sybil Kein, ed., The Feast of All Saints by Anne Rice, Creole New Orleans: Race and Americanization by Arnold Hirsch and Joseph Logsdon, and Catherine Carmier by Ernest Gaines FREE/ Advanced registration required.

April 18, Noon - Lunchtime Lecture and Book Signing - Southern University Law Center featuring authors **Dr. Rachel L. Emanuel and Carla Ball** who will present the rich and colorful history of Southern University Law Center through selected images that portray legal education amid the continuing struggle for justice, inclusion, and equality.

May 19 - August 19 - Exhibit: Tractors: Rural Ingenuity. This exhibit will tell the story of the inventions and people who shaped the way agricultural processes changed in the rural south. Among the local inventors featured are Leonard Julien, Allen Ramsey Wurtele, and Norbert Rillieux who transformed the way sugarcane is planted, harvested and processed.

June 3 – Barn Demonstration Day – When the barn doors open, come see what's in store. There will be a day of tinkering, hammering, blacksmithing, spinning, churning, milling and so much more! FREE!

June 18-22 & 25-29 – Blast from the Past Summer History Camp, "How to Have More FUN on the Farm" for children ages 6 – 12. Advanced, paid registration required. Residents and WBR Historical Association members, \$125, All other participants, \$150.

July 16 – 17 – Teachers Institute – Registration for this annual program sponsored by WBR Historical Association opens March 26. Space is limited.

July 30, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Christmas in July Card Party

August 18 – October 28 - Golden Anniversary: Treasures from the Collection - Treasures from the Collection: In honor of the WBR Museum's 50th Anniversary, the Historical Association is opening the vault to display objects from our collection that document the rich cultural history of our parish. Many of these objects will be on display for the first time!

SAVE THE DATE

**"CHRISTMAS IN JULY" CARD PARTY
SET FOR JULY 30, 2018**

CURRENT LIST OF FRIENDS

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

Welcome New Members

New Friends:

Mrs. Carolyn Corona Achee
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Daigle
Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Weldon

New Member:

Katherine Lorio

New Student:

Cohen Simoneaux

* Denotes New Friends Member

Donations were received for the following Memorial Funds:

Acquisitions Memorial Fund

J. Allie & Ruth Babin – Alice & Chris LeBlanc
Mr. Dale DeCuir - Babs Babin

General Memorial Fund

Eleanor Ann Coit Favrot – Mike & Joy Bordelon
Eleanor Ann (Coit) Favrot – Glenn and Irma Gremillion
Eleanor Ann Favrot – West Baton Rouge Museum Staff
Eleanor Ann Coit Favrot – Donald & Sara Reulet
Eleanor Ann Favrot – Janet Rhorer
Eleanor Ann Favrot – Bill & Lorry Trotter

Museum Memorial Fund

Betty Ann Laviolette – West Baton Rouge Museum Staff
Martin Dale DeCuir – West Baton Rouge Museum Staff

Frank Carruth III Children's Fund

Marsha Best Turner – A.C. Best, Jr.
Marsha Best Turner – Zimena & Bill Davis
Marsha Best Turner – John & Julie (Best) Erwin
& Karen Best Hendley
Marsha Best Turner – Harry L. Laws & Co.
& Catherine Sugar Company
Marsha Best Turner – Richard & Glenda Mosely
Marsha Best Turner – Port Allen High School Class of 1964
Marsha Best Turner – Ruth & Bobby Stanley
Marsha Best Turner – Glenn & Anne Timmons
Marsha Best Turner - West Baton Rouge Museum Staff

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 acknowledgement 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 _____

FRANK CARRUTH III CHILDREN'S FUND _____ (make checks payable to WBR Museum)

GENERAL FUND _____ MUSEUM MEMORIAL 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.

Membership Form – 2018

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please check the membership category you wish to join.

Student \$10.00 _____ Friends \$100.00 _____
(individuals) (businesses/individuals)

Member \$20.00 _____ Patrons \$35.00 _____
(individuals) (families/individuals)

Make checks payable to West Baton Rouge Historical Association, and mail to 845 North Jefferson Avenue, Port Allen, LA 70767.



**West Baton
Rouge Historical
Association**

845 North Jefferson Avenue
Port Allen, LA 70767

Toll Free: 1-888-881-6811

Phone: 225-336-2422

Fax: 225-336-2448

Email: contact_us@wbrmuseum.org

Website: www.westbatonrougemuseum.com

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