



# Écoutez



July - September, 2018

Volume L, No. 3

## 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."*

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA

AUGUST 18, 2018

See page 4 for more pictures



## Sweets Booth & Contest Featured at SugarFest

A favorite place to shop at SugarFest on Sunday, October 7 is the Sweets Booth sponsored by the West Baton Rouge Historical Association. It will be open for business from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. under the tent near the Arbroth Store on the West Baton Rouge Museum grounds. Chairperson Mary Bennett invites everyone to stop by to purchase their favorite cake, candy, cookies, or pie.

A Sweets Contest will be held in the morning for the best cake, candy, cookies, or pie. A full cake or pie, at least two dozen cookies, or two dozen candy samples must be submitted. The items must be delivered to the Sweets Booth between 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. Contest forms are available at the WBR Museum or may be picked up at the Sweets Booth on October 7.

If you'd like to donate sweets to sell at the Sweets Booth, they may be dropped off in a non-returnable container at the sweets booth on Sunday, October 7 between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Cookies, cupcakes and candy should be individually wrapped for sale in plastic wrap or bags. Cakes and pies may be delivered whole. Please do not bring items that need refrigeration. To assist the volunteers, please label your sweet item. If you are unable to bring your item on Sunday, someone at the Museum will be happy to receive any donation on Friday or Saturday afternoon before the event.

For more information or questions, call Mary Bennett at 485-4213.



## Plantation Dinner Set for October 7

The West Baton Rouge Historical Association will sell an old-fashioned plantation dinner from 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. during the West Baton Rouge Museum's SugarFest celebration on Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018. Danny's Cajun Catering prepares a delicious dinner

which includes ½ smoked chicken, rice dressing, beans and roll for only \$8.00. Visit the dinner booth located near the Arbroth Store on the grounds of the West Baton Rouge Museum, 845 N. Jefferson, Port Allen. Tickets may be purchased prior to the event from any WBR Historical Association member. Michelle Owens is chairing the fundraiser.

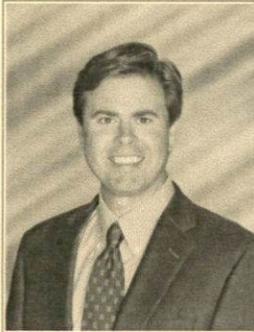


## MALAIKA FAVORITE TO SPEAK AT ETHEL CLAIBORNE DAMERON LECTURE SERIES

Malaika Favorite, famed American visual artist and writer, will be the guest speaker for the West Baton Rouge Historical Association's annual Ethel Claiborne Dameron Lecture Series at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, October 21, 2018, at the WBR Museum in Port Allen. A reception will follow her presentation.

This 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 program is free and open to the public.

The program coincides with the opening day of the West Baton Rouge Museum's Malaika Favorite: Washboard City exhibit. A noted artist, Favorite experiments using different surfaces and shapes and is not confined by the structure of rectangular canvas. She is also known for her creative interpretations of history. In this latest series, washboards are used as a - *continued on Page 3*



Drew Maciasz  
WBR Historical Association  
Board President

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT AROUND OUR ASSOCIATION

As we near the end of summer, it's always an exciting time as we look forward to cooler temperatures, crisp mornings of Fall, and a bountiful harvest season. Agriculture has been, and continues to be, one of the critical economic drivers in our region. Not only that, agriculture is a main staple woven into the message of our Museum and Historical Association.



When Fall comes around, harvest season is such a pivotal time in our parish, region, and state, generating a multitude of jobs, additional sales in our stores, and providing a living to a whole host of families who work the land. Certainly one of the most special experiences during our parish's history has been the sights, sounds, and smells that have been generated by the various sugarcane farming operations that span West Baton Rouge from one end to the other. Day or night, good weather and bad, our parish's farmers work tirelessly, demonstrating a labor of love to provide the food and fabric we all enjoy.

The sugar industry continues to be West Baton Rouge's most prolific commodity and for all it does for our parish is well worth celebrating. On Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., the annual SugarFest will once again grace the grounds of the West Baton Rouge Museum and celebrate the sugar industry and

what it provides for our community. From the plantation style chicken dinners to the many demonstrations, there will certainly be enough food, fun and activities for everyone to enjoy. We hope this is our most successful year ever and hope to see you there!

Over the last few months, the Historical Association had been working hard to plan a fantastic Gala to celebrate its 50th Golden Anniversary on August 18th, and man...it did not disappoint! The Gala turned out to be a wonderful success, and it was awesome to see all our volunteers' hard work and dedication make such a profound statement. Many friends, old and new, joined in the celebration. It was a reunion for some, but a joyous event for all. Many thanks to the Museum staff for setting up a fantastic exhibit, which is still on display until October 28<sup>th</sup>. In addition, I give a special thanks to the members of our Gala Committee, whose detailed planning gave us a special memory to certainly last for another 50 years.

As always, please encourage your friends and neighbors to join us in the Historical Association. We want everyone to come see the excitement, experience the wonders of the Museum, and participate in our events. Please call Alice LeBlanc at the WBR Museum, (225) 336-2422 or email [leblanc@wbrmuseum.org](mailto:leblanc@wbrmuseum.org) for more information. See you at SugarFest!

*Drew*

Drew Maciasz

*Where history has a name.*



WEST BATON ROUGE MUSEUM



Angélique Bergeron, PhD  
West Baton Rouge  
Museum Director

## From Our Director



Dear friends,

We spent a wonderful night celebrating 50 years of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association and Museum. A big thank you to all who made the gala and exhibition **golden!** If you haven't already, stop by to see the *Golden Anniversary: Treasures of the Collection* exhibit, which will be on display through October 28<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to pick up a copy of the beautiful gallery guide that accompanies the exhibition. (Thanks to the Historical Association for making that happen.)

On September 30<sup>th</sup>, Country Roads will host their Supper Club in our Juke Joint. They're calling the evening *Baton Rouge Blues on the Gold Coast*, and a few tickets are still available through Bon-TempsTix.com. Chef David Crews, creator of Cleveland, Mississippi's nationally recognized Delta Supper Club, will be at the stove, while local blues duo Smokehouse Porter and Ms. Mamie will play classic Baton Rouge blues during cocktail hour.

The blues will carry us through the following weekend because

it's that time of year... **SugarFest!** We are gearing up for a sweet time celebrating the music, food, traditions, and history of our region. Festivalgoers will be entertained by renowned musicians including Kenny Neal, Lil Ray Neal, Storyville Stompers, Cajun Roots, Cane Grinders, Choupique, Fabulous Bagasse Boyz, Henry Turner & Flavor, Judy Whitney Davis, Lagniappe Dulcimer Society, Kitchen Session, Les Bons Sons, Dorothy LeBlanc, Kent Louque, and Claudette Purnell & the All Parish Children's Choir. We hope to see everyone for the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual SugarFest on October 7<sup>th</sup> at the West Baton Rouge Museum.

Look for more great things to come later this fall with Malaika Favorite's *Washboard City* exhibit and talk on October 21<sup>st</sup> for the Ethel Claiborne Dameron Lecture Series. And on November 4<sup>th</sup>, we are honored to host the Veterans' Day reception again this year. Port Allen's Veterans' on Parade coincides with the opening of *Picturing Nam* a traveling photographic exhibit that you won't want to miss from the National Archives.

With so much going on around here, we hope to see you at the museum!

*Angélique*

Angélique Bergeron





WBR Museum Curator of Collections, Elizabeth Brantly shown above at The Golden Anniversary: Treasures from the Collection exhibit.

**West Baton Rouge Museum is pleased to announce a new exhibition** entitled *The Golden Anniversary: Treasures from the Collection* which opened August 18th and will run through October 28, 2018. This exhibition celebrates the 50th anniversary of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association which founded the West Baton Rouge Museum. The exhibit will showcase the wide variety of artifacts found in the permanent collection, many of which have never been on public display before.

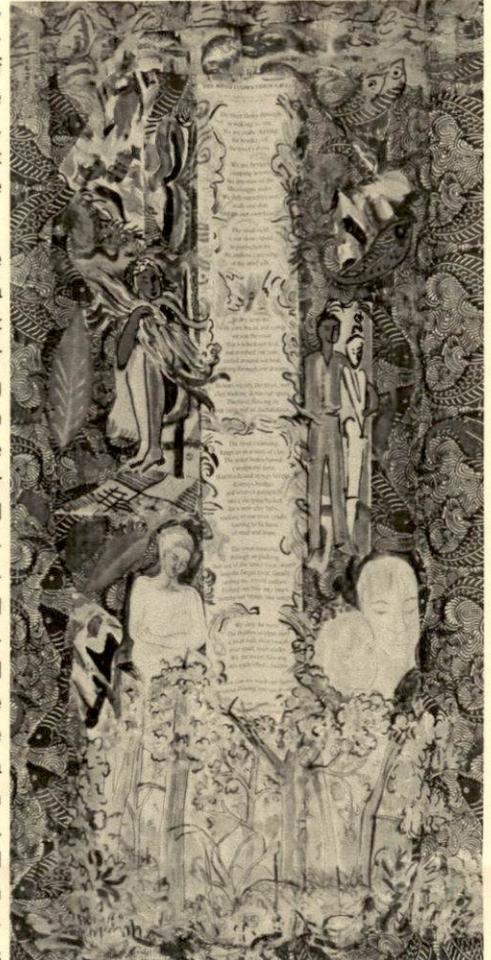
The WBR Historical Association was founded in December 1968 by a group of local citizens dedicated to historic preservation. Fifty years later, the WBR Museum is a nationally accredited museum dedicated to interpreting the rich and complex history of our area. The permanent collection currently has over 10,000 artifacts that span centuries of West Baton Rouge history and the museum has grown from its original home in the old vault of the parish courthouse to a 6-acre campus with 8 historic structures that represent life on area sugar plantations. The WBR Historical Association is proud of what it has accomplished in its first 50 years and looks forward to continuing its mission of researching, collecting, and preserving artifacts that reflect the history and cultural heritage of West Baton Rouge Parish and the surrounding areas for the benefit of the general public and future generations.

### ECD Lecture

*Continued from page 1*

symbol of the work, discipline, and determinations of black women in the south. Additionally, this painting exhibit will also feature some of her poetry.

Malaika Favorite has worked as a professional artist since receiving her MFA in painting and drawing from Louisiana State University. After working several years as an art instructor on the university level and as an artist-in-residence at several public and private schools, she left the world of academia to focus full time on her art and writing. Her art works and poetry have been featured in a number of publications



and can be found in prestigious collections belonging to The Coca Cola Company and Hartsfield Jackson International Airport in Atlanta, Georgia. Additionally, they can be seen at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio; Absolut Vodka, The Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, Georgia; and the Alexandria Museum of Art, in Alexandria, LA.

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## MUSIC SCHEDULE FOR SUGARFEST 2018

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

The **Choupique Band**, accompanied by dance troupe, **Le Danseurs de la Capitale de Baton Rouge** - Arbroth Plantation Store stage

**Dorothy LeBlanc** - Juke Joint Side Stage

The **Louisiana Vintage Dancers** - Brick Gallery

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

**Henry Turner** - Juke Joint

The **Fabulous Bagasse Boys** - Aillet House front porch

**Kent Louque** - Brick Gallery

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

**Cajun Roots** - Arbroth Plantation Store stage

The **Lagniappe Dulcimer Society** - Brick Gallery

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

**Lil' Ray Neal** - Juke Joint

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

The **Storyville Stompers** - Aillet House front porch

The **Cane Grinders** - Brick Gallery

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

The **West Baton Rouge All-Parish Choir** - Juke Joint Side Stage

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**Kenny Neal** - Juke Joint

**Les Bon Sons** - Arbroth Plantation Store stage

**Kitchen Session** - Brick Gallery

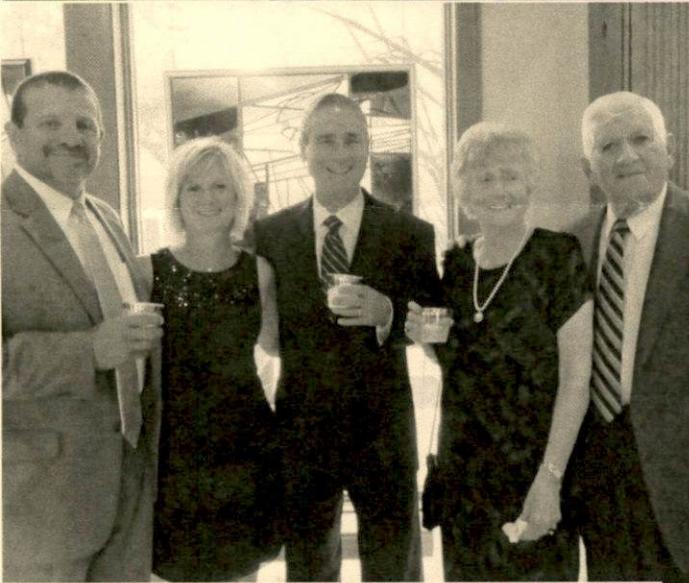
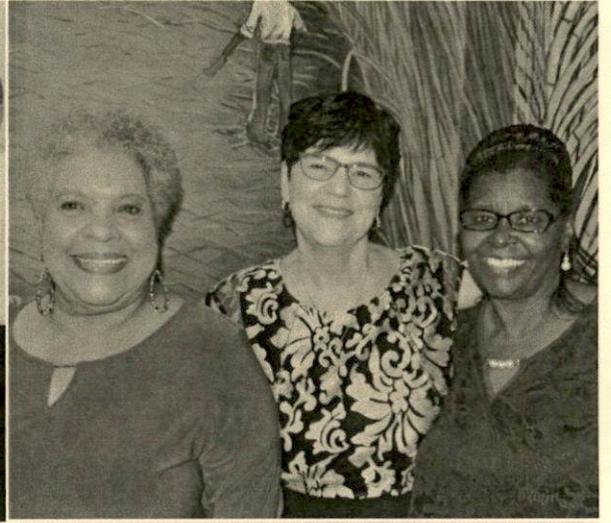


# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

of the

WEST BATON ROUGE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE WEST BATON ROUGE MUSEUM

1968 - 2018



# Christmas in July Card Party Nets \$3,437.77

Thanks for the wonderful show of support from the WBRHA Card Party Committee, HA board members, card players, volunteers, and friends in making the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas in July Card Party so successful! The fund raiser netted \$3,437.77 for the West Baton Rouge Historical Association. Over 100 card players gathered at the West Baton Rouge Community Center in Port Allen on July 30, 2018 to enjoy a day of cards, win door prizes, monetary and basket raffles, and share an excellent meal. Attendees played bridge, hand and foot canasta, regular canasta, Shanghi rummy, bouree, sequence, and other games. Special thanks to event chairperson Lorry Trotter, lunch chairperson Evva Wilson, and committee members Babs Babin, Joyce Barbier, Kim Callegan, Alice LeBlanc, Ida Pierre, Janet Simoneaux, and Ruth Stanley.



# Curator's Corner:



Elizabeth Brantley  
Curator of Collections

## Fall 2018

*Washboard City* is a series of paintings on washboards created by the Louisiana born artist, Malaika Favorite, who uses the archaic tools to artistically tell the story of her life growing up in Geismar where her grandparents worked in the sugar cane fields. Twelve of her colorfully crafted assemblages will be on display at the West Baton Rouge Museum from **October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. A 1973 graduate from LSU's School of Fine Art, Malaika is an accomplished artist and author of three books of poetry.

\*\*\*\*\*

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the city of Port Allen will gather along its streets for the annual Veteran's Day Parade. Following the parade, the public is invited to a reception at the West Baton Rouge Museum, where the National Archives exhibit *Picturing Nam: U.S. Military Photography of the Vietnam War* is on view.

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West Baton Rouge Parish President, Riley "PeeWee" Berthelot received the **Public Official of the Year Award** from the Louisiana Association of Museums at the annual meeting on Monday, September 10, 2018. This award recognizes an elected or appointed official who has demonstrated special or sustained, significant support of Louisiana's museums and historic sites.

Photographs are a powerful part of our collective memory of the Vietnam War. This exhibit features images taken by military photographers stationed in Vietnam. Their assignments took them everywhere from the jungles and swamps to hospital ships, rivers, and air bases. Unsanitized and uncensored, these indelible images give an intimate and ground up view of the war and those who fought it. This exhibit runs through January 6, 2019.



Kathe Hambrick  
Exhibits Curator

To honor local Vietnam veterans, we need your help. Contact Kathe Hambrick at 225-336-2422 x 207, if you have any items you would like to loan for the exhibit.

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The Brick Gallery will soon be transformed into the River Gallery. Beginning in January 2019, this space will feature a rotating schedule of permanent collection artifacts focusing on the rivers and waterways that have shaped our history. If you have any river related items or photographs that you would be willing to donate, please contact Curator of Collections, Elizabeth Brantley at 225-336-2422 x 206.

## 2018 Historical Association Board of Directors

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

## NEW PHONE EXTENSIONS FOR THE MUSEUM

The WBR Museum recently had to replace the phone system. As a result, all employees have new three-digit extensions. For your convenience, they are:

Front Desk.....	200	Hambrick, Kathe .....	207
Gift Shop.....	202	Hawthorne, Lauren..	209
Bergeron, Angelique ..	210	Laviolette, Gwenn....	201
Brantley, Elizabeth .....	206	LeBlanc, Alice.....	203
Brantley, Toni .....	201	Lockett, Jeannie .....	205
Collins, Linda.....	204		

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**October 7 – SugarFest - 11:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.-** An annual sweet celebration of the sugar cane harvest with folk life demonstrations, live music, a sweets contest, and sugary treats. **FREE.**

\*This month's **Café Français** will be a French Table at SugarFest. Look for the signs to *parler avec nous* and maybe even catch a game of *Bourré*. **Gratuit.**

**October 19 – Annual Halloween Event, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.–** Trick or treat at historic houses, play vintage games, enjoy hauntingly good live music, and more. Come see for yourself what the West Baton Rouge Parish Library and the Museum have in store. **FREE.**

**October 20 – January 20 – Malaika Favorite: Washboard City –** Louisiana folk artist Malaika Favorite is known for her creative interpretations of history. In her latest series, *Washboard City*, scrub-boards are used as a symbol of the hard work, discipline, and determination of black women in the south.

**October 21 – Annual Ethel Claiborne Dameron Lecture Series with Malaika Favorite, 2:30 p.m. -** This annual lecture series honors the memory of Ethel Claiborne Dameron, founder of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association and West Baton Rouge Museum. Reception to follow. **FREE.**

**October 25, Clay Sculpture Workshop with West Baton Rouge artist, Mary Guarisco – 9 a.m. – Noon.** Make your own miniature masterpiece under the guidance of West Baton Rouge artist, Mary Guarisco, known for her painting, life casting, and sculpture. No experience is necessary, and all materials will be provided. This workshop is offered in conjunction with the exhibit, *Golden Anniversary: Treasures from the Collection, 1968 - 2018*. Space is limited. Advanced registration is required by calling 225-336-2422 Ext. 200. **FREE.**

**November 2 – Café Français, 1:00 p.m. – Gratuit.**

**November 3 – January 6 - Picturing Nam -** This exhibit, curated by the National Archives, features some of the hundreds of thousands of photographs that military photographers stationed in Vietnam took to document American Armed Forces activities.

**November 3, 10, and 17, Book Club - 10:00 a.m – 11:30 a.m.–** Presented jointly with the West Baton Rouge Parish Library to accompany the *Picturing Nam* exhibit, this book club will cover *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien, *Everything We Had* by Al Santoli, and *Nam* by Mark Baker. Space is limited. To register and check out loan copies of the reading material, call the WBRP Library at 225-342-7920. **FREE.**

**November 4 – Annual West Baton Rouge “Veterans on Parade” - 1:30 p.m. -** The parade will roll past and conclude in front of the West Baton Rouge Museum with a Veteran's Memorial Ceremony that will take place honoring all veterans and the grand marshals of the parade. Immediately following the ceremony, the West Baton Rouge Museum will be open free of charge for veterans, their families, parade goers, and the general public to enjoy a reception and tours of the *Picturing Nam* exhibit.

**December 2 – Holiday Open House, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. -** Enjoy an afternoon at the museum featuring holiday music, warm cider and gingerbread, craft making, a visit from Papa Noel, and everyone's favorite campus wide game, “Find the Elves”! Free.

**December 7 - Café Français, 1:00 p.m. – Gratuit.**

## 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'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  
Modernaires 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 Salvadras  
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  
J. Kenneth Washington  
Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Weldon  
West Baton Rouge Chamber  
West Baton Rouge CVB  
West Baton Rouge Garden & Civic Club  
West Side Women's Club  
Doug & Anna Wilkinson

**Welcome New Members**

**New Friends:**  
Scott & Kay Gaudin  
Rose Marie Gray

**New Patron:**  
Mr. & Mrs. Geoffrey Tyler

**New Members:**  
Kathe Hambrick

**New Student:**  
Joan Garner

**\* Denotes New Friends Member**



# West Baton Rouge Historical Association

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 31  
Port Allen, LA

845 North Jefferson Avenue  
Port Allen, LA 70767

Toll Free: 1-888-881-6811  
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Fax: 225-336-2448  
Email: [contact\\_us@wbrmuseum.org](mailto:contact_us@wbrmuseum.org)  
Website: [www.westbatonrougemuseum.com](http://www.westbatonrougemuseum.com)

Change Service Requested

## Donations were received for the following Memorial Funds:

Acquisitions Memorial Fund

Ethel Claiborne Dameron Memorial Fund

Ethel Claiborne – Richard Sutz

General Memorial Fund

Henry E. L. LeBlanc – Mrs. Patricia Alford

Museum Memorial Fund

Frank Carruth III Children's Fund

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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.

### Membership Form - 2018

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

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

E-mail 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)

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