



Écoutez



October - December, 2018

Volume L, No. 4

A PUBLICATION OF THE WEST BATON ROUGE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Janet Simoneaux, Editor, jcsimoneaux@gmail.com, 225-383-2502

"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."



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.



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.

MALAIKA FAVORITE SPEAKS AT THE ETHEL CLAIBORNE DAMERON LECTURE SERIES



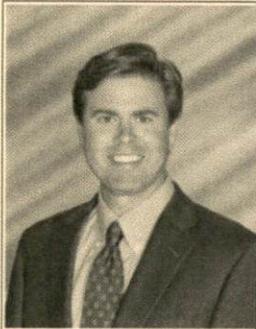
Malaika Favorite, center, entertained the audience with her wash-board art work and poetry at the annual Ethel Claiborne Dameron Lecture on October 21 at the West Baton Rouge Museum. Pictured from left are Angelique Bergeron, Museum Director; Kathe Hambrick, Exhibits Coordinator; Evva Wilson, co-chair, and Jeanie Lockett, 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.

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.



Drew Maciasz
WBR Historical Association
Board President

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!

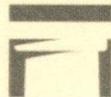
Although this is my final Association President letter for 2018, it will not be my last. I've been graciously asked to serve the West Baton Rouge Historical Association again in 2019 as its President, and I accepted the nomination without hesitation. Please join us at our Annual Meeting in January, as 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

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 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 partner-

ship with the Oschner 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 *Écoutez*).

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 *Eggstravaganza* on April 14th, which is put on in partnership with the WBR Parish Library.

We hope to see you at the museum!

Angélique

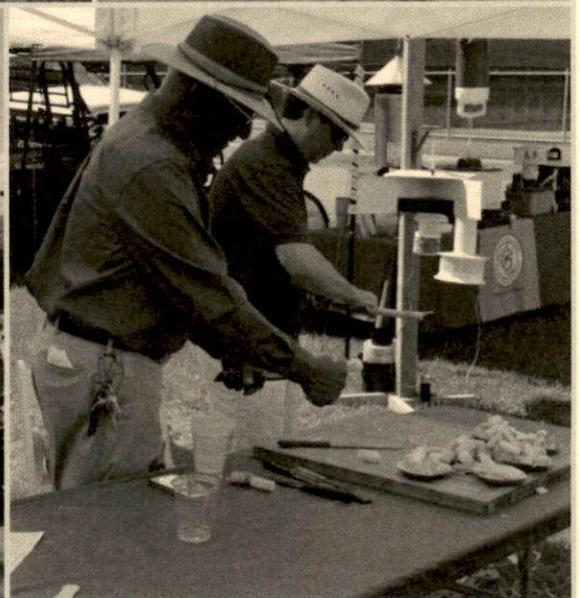
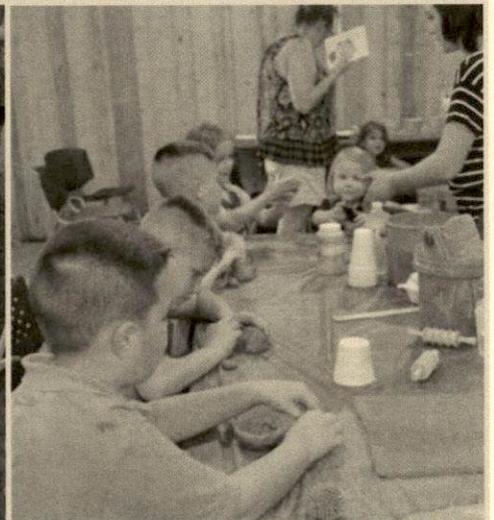
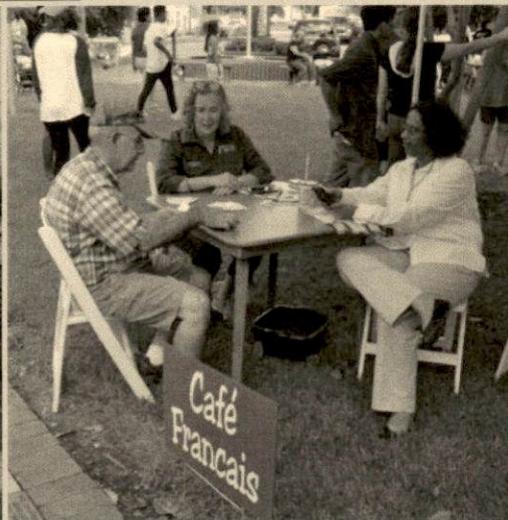
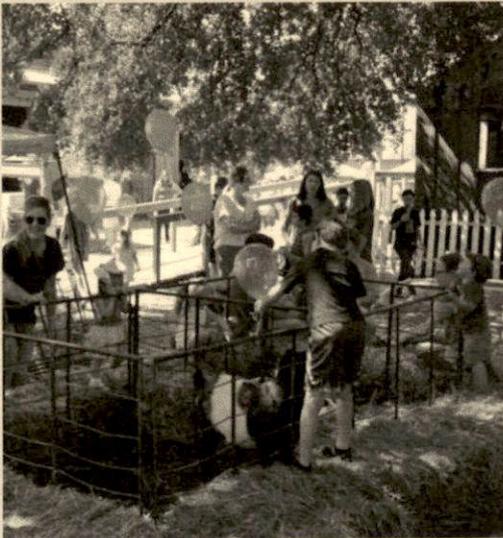
Angélique Bergeron





SUGARFEST 2018

October 7, 2018





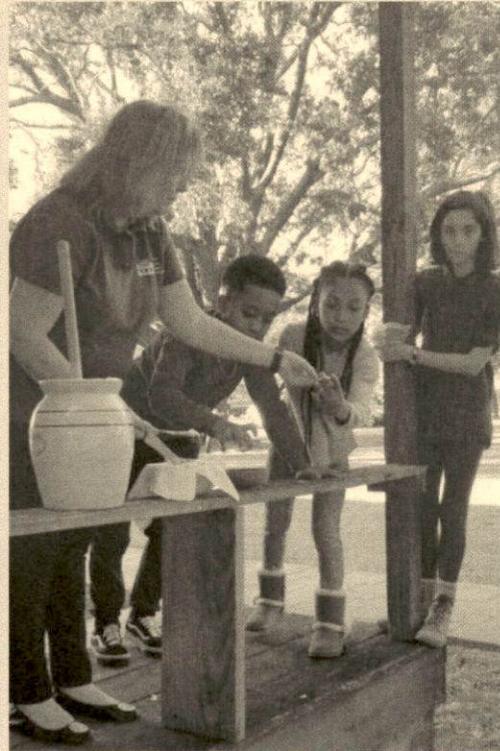
2018 ETHEL CLAIBORNE DAMERON LECTURE SERIES
FEATURING MALAIKA FAVORITE
October 21, 2018





HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

DECEMBER 2, 2018



Curator's Corner:

December 2018



Kathe Hambrick
Exhibits Curator

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.



Elizabeth Brantley
Curator of Collections

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 Larpenter, 2nd place; and Demetria Bell, 3rd place. Taking honors in the cake competition were Theresa Rizzutto, 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.

NHD CALL FOR JUDGES
NATIONAL HISTORY DAY GREATER 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, Garret 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.

February 14 – Noon – **Lunchtime Lecture and book signing** with Nancy Penrose, author of *A Dream and A Chisel*, on the life and work of Angela Gregory. Feel free to bring a Brown Bag Lunch.

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

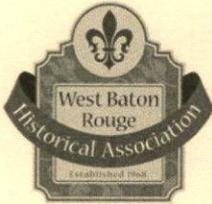
March 7-9 – **Dulcimer Fête**

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



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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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

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 - 2019

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)

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