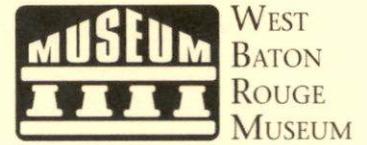




# Écoutez



October - December, 2015

Volume XLVII, No. 4

A PUBLICATION OF THE WEST BATON ROUGE  
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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

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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."*

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## Susan Hymel Describes Angela Gregory's "New State Capitol Art" at Ethel Claiborne Dameron Lecture

Historian and Port Allen native Susan Hymel discussed "Angela Gregory's New State Capitol Art" at the West Baton Rouge Historical Association's annual Ethel Claiborne Dameron Lecture at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, November 15, at the West Baton Rouge Museum in Port Allen.

Prior to the program, a dedication and ribbon cutting opened a permanent exhibit in the lobby of the museum which includes seven relief portraits sculpted by Gregory and known today as the "Faces." Originally commissioned for the exterior of the new state capitol building in 1932, the pieces are now part of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association's permanent collection. Ellis Gauthier, president of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association, cut the ribbon while West Baton Rouge Museum Director Julie Rose described the works of art.

Susan Hymel has been associated with Angela Gregory's work for over 40 years and was instrumental in finding homes for the relief portraits. Additionally Hymel assisted Gregory Art in identifying museums and other institutions to receive donations of art works by Angela Gregory.

Hymel has a B.S. in social studies from Our Lady of Holy Cross in New Orleans and a M.S. degree in social studies from Ole Miss. She served as guest curator for a retrospective show of Angela Gregory's work and that of the artist's mother, Selena Bres Gregory at the West Baton Rouge Museum in 2004.

A reception followed the program. See page 3 for pictures of the event.



### ECD Dignitaries

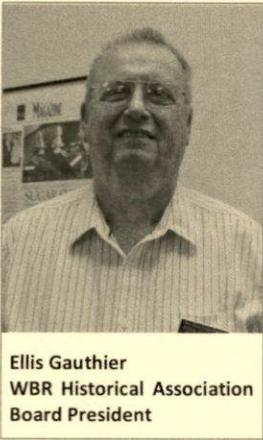
Pictured from left following the Ethel Claiborne Dameron lecture on November 15 is John Bres, Angela Gregory's cousin; Debra Salvadras, co-chair of the ECD Lecture Committee; Susan Hymel, guest lecturer; Ellis Gauthier, WBR Historical Association President; and Julie Rose, WBR Museum Director. Not pictured is co-chair Jeannie Luckett.

## Mark Your Calendars

The Annual Meeting of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2016, at the West Baton Rouge Museum.



*If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, please use the Proxy Form on page 6.*



Ellis Gauthier  
WBR Historical Association  
Board President

## From Our President Around Our Association



Season's Greetings to all!

As we look forward to 2016 we are thankful for our West Baton Rouge Historical Association members and their families who lead, work, or participate in a range of activities during the year. Your commitment to furthering the mission of our organization is truly exceptional.

Our 10<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas in July Card Party and Sugar Fest activities in October both saw an increase in dollars raised and participation levels. Thanks to Lorry Trotter for chairing the Card Party for the 3<sup>rd</sup> straight year and to Evva Wilson for serving as food chairman again.

As we moved into autumn, preparations for the Sugar Fest Sweets Booth and Plantation Dinner fundraisers sponsored by the WBR Historical Association began. Thanks to Jane Brou and Debra Salvadras for chairing the Plantation Dinner again this year and to HA members for selling tickets for the delicious dinner; and to Alice LeBlanc for managing the tickets and money for this event.

Our appreciation and special thanks to Mary Bennett for stepping in at the last minute to chair the Sugar Fest Sweets Booth and to all the volunteers who assisted customers and brought sweets to sell. Thanks also to Ruth Stanley and Babs Babin for assisting the

Sweets Contest judges during the event.

The annual Ethel Claiborne Dameron lecture on November 15 featured local historian Susan Hymel who gave a presentation on noted sculptor Angela Gregory. Prior to the lecture the permanently installed relief portraits sculpted by Gregory and originally commissioned for the exterior of the new state Capitol Building in 1932 were unveiled. They will be on display in the front entrance of the Museum.

Thanks to our ECD chairpersons Debra Salvadras and Jeannie Lockett. We appreciate the generosity of our ECD Committee for sharing their talents with attendees. Special appreciation to Debra Salvadras for providing an awesome flower arrangement for the serving table. Others who assisted were Hospitality Chairman Kim Callegan and committee members Joyce Barbier, Mary Bennett, Janice Hebert and Janet Simoneaux.

We're delighted that many wonderful items have been added to our collection this year and our Friends membership has also seen a significant increase. It has been a remarkable 47<sup>th</sup> year for the WBRHA and we look forward to more exciting things to come in 2016. Please join us for the Annual Meeting of the WBR Historical Association at **1:30 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2016** at the WBR Museum in Port Allen. All members are invited to attend the meeting and join us for refreshments afterward.

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

*Ellis*

Ellis Gauthier



## Commemorating the U.S. Civil War Sesquicentennial in Louisiana



Julie Rose  
West Baton Rouge  
Museum Director

### From Our Director



Greetings,

There are two things I would like to write about in my last letter for the 'Ecoutez' in 2015. First is to say thank you for your support and your love for preserving history. History is a gift and gifts are about sharing. You along with the West Baton Rouge Museum and the Historical Association need to tell the stories about the families who built our towns, farms and factories, about the battles won and lost, about the

fashions, trends and arts. These stories are bound to an array of artifacts, historic buildings and bountiful landscapes. Each memory the objects and places stand to represent is a gift to those who came after. There is joy in sharing history and pride in preserving history. There is also obligation and responsibility in sharing history and I am so proud to be a part of the West Baton Rouge Museum and the West Baton Rouge Historical Association where our staff, volunteers, and members treasure the gifts that history brings.

Second I want to say thank you for an outstanding and memorable year together. We enjoyed our annual events, especially the 20<sup>th</sup>

annual Sugar Fest, National History Day, Teachers Institute, and camp. The year was made extra special with the centennial anniversary of the Town of Addis and the Foundation for Historical Louisiana Award for restoring the Arbroth Store. The year was bright with outstanding exhibitions from the sublime exhibition "The Portrait, the Artist and the Patron: 19<sup>th</sup> Century Louisiana Portraiture" to the adorable "A Charlie Brown Christmas Turns 50." Sadly, we lost loved ones who were passionate about history but their stories, I sincerely hope, will be part of the history we preserve for future generations. Happily we welcomed new children and community members into our history organizations, who we hope will find meaning and value in the history we share with them.

We are truly fortunate as two collaborating history organizations heading into 2016. We look forward to many new exhibits and programs including celebrating the centennial anniversary of the City of Port Allen, the history of Cohn High School, Walter Anderson, and Angela Gregory. Just think that in ten short years we will have the privilege of celebrating our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

Thank you for your continued support and love for history.

See you at the museum!

*Julie*

Julie Rose



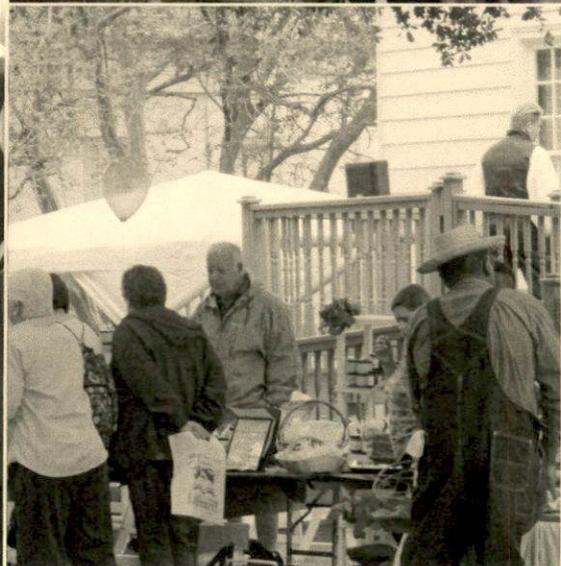
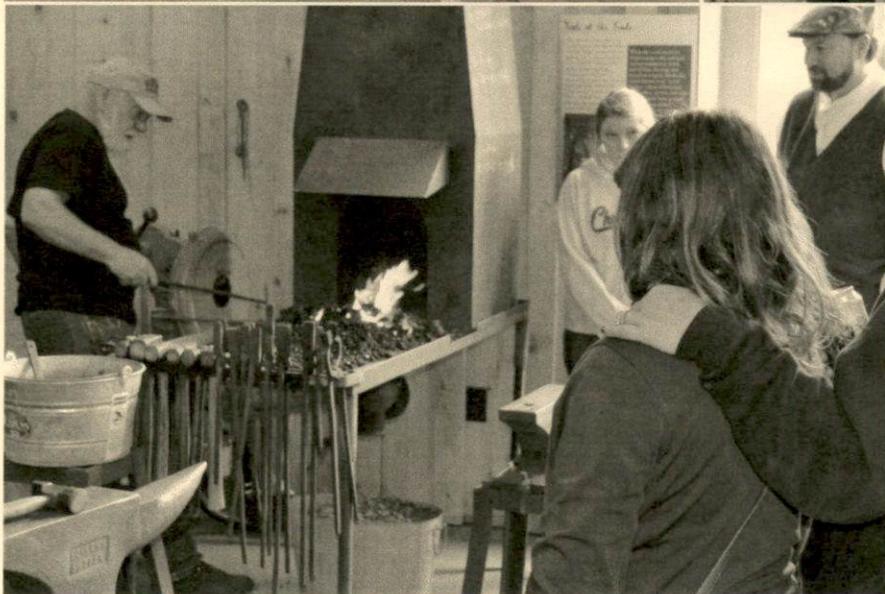
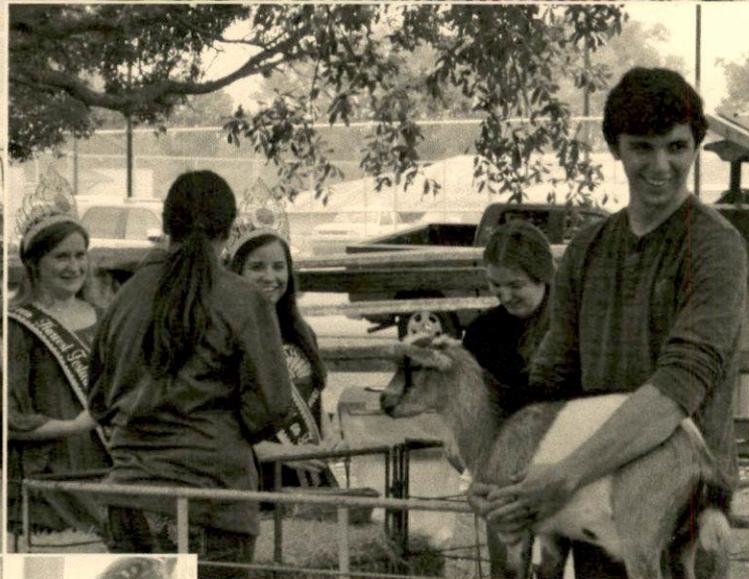
**Ethel Claiborne Dameron Lecture  
Angela Gregory's "New State Capitol Art"**  
Presented by Susan Hymel





# SUGARFEST 2015

October 4, 2015



# WBR MUSEUM HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

December 12, 2015





Angelique Bergeron  
Curator of Collections

## Curator's Corner

### CALL FOR ARTIFACTS

Can you help us with our upcoming exhibits? We have an exciting slate of exhibits planned for 2016 and, as always, we love to highlight West Baton Rouge history and collections. Please contact Angelique Bergeron, WBRM Curator at

[bergeron@wbrmuseum.org](mailto:bergeron@wbrmuseum.org) or 225.336.2422 x11, if you have any of the following to loan for our spring and summer exhibits:

- Items pertaining to **Cohn High School**, including varsity jackets, trophies, ribbons, sports equipment, prom dresses, yearbooks, school books, awards, term papers, music, classroom ephemera, report cards, and photographs that help show what school and social life was like for students and faculty (needed by January 15)
- Artwork, artifacts, printed materials about or by **Angela Gregory** (needed by March 15)
- Liquor and beer bottles c.1920s or any items pertaining to **Prohibition** (needed by May 31)
- Artifacts and documents pertaining to **Huey P. Long** (needed by May 31)



**Museum Benefits from Eagle Scout Project:** Adam Hock, pictured above, right, recently organized and supervised the painting of the storage shed on the grounds of the West Baton Rouge Museum for his Eagle Scout project. With the help of his fellow scouts and leaders from Troop 53, Adam was able to accomplish this task. Thanks to Adam and best wishes from your friends at the West Baton Rouge Museum.



### VOTING PROXY FORM

**January 11, 2016  
Annual Meeting**

**West Baton Rouge Historical Association**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a current member of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association do hereby nominate and appoint \_\_\_\_\_ to vote in my place at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association to be held Monday, January 11, 2016, at 1:30 pm.

Please mail to West Baton Rouge Historical Association, 845 N. Jefferson Avenue, Port Allen, LA 70767 to be received before January 11, 2016. You may also fax the form to 225-336-2448 or you may e-mail to: [leblanc@wbrmuseum.org](mailto:leblanc@wbrmuseum.org).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



### INVOICE

**West Baton Rouge Historical Association  
845 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Port Allen, LA 70767**

### 2016 Membership Invoice Form

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

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

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the membership category you wish to join.**

Student \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Friends \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
(children and college students) (business/individuals)

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

*The West Baton Rouge Historical Association is a 501 © (3) organization. We sincerely appreciate your continued support. If you are a LIFE member or have already paid your 2016 dues, please disregard this notice. Thank you.*

## Calendar of Events

**Through January 3:** A Charlie Brown Christmas Turns 50.

**Through January 17:** The Portrait, the Artist, and the Patron: 19th Century Louisiana Portraiture.

**January 13, noon:** Lunchtime Lecture "The Portrait, the Artist, and the Patron" presented by art historian Claudia Kheel. Illustrated talk about 19th century portrait paintings. Free.

**January 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m.:** Portraits and Pastels Workshop: An evening of refreshments, relaxation, and portrait drawing in a painterly fashion on Thursday, January 14 from 6:30 -8:30pm. Make your own masterpiece under the guidance of a local professional artist and art educator, Jenn Prochaska, who will share techniques in using pastels. Composition choices will include self-portraits, portraits drawn from photographs or other images, or from live models dressed in 19th century attire. All materials will be provided. This event is free, seating is limited. To register, call (225) 336-2422 x 15.

**January 16 – March 6:** Talented Student Art Show of West Baton Rouge Schools

**January 16, 2:00-4:00 p.m.:** Opening Reception for Student Art Show.

**February 2 – March 20:** History of Cohn High School: 1949-1969

**February 28:** Reception for History of Cohn High School exhibition

**March 10-13:** Dulcimer Fete

**March 13 – April 30:** Portraits from Uganda and Madagascar by Aaron Williams and Nathan Newberry

**March 19:** National History Day Competition

## 2015 Historical Association Board of Directors

Joyce Barbier	Glen E. DeMourelle	<b>2015 Officers</b>
Mary Bennett	Brian Falcon	<b>President</b>
Jane Brou	Jason Hammack	Ellis Gauthier
Kim Callegan	Gary Hart	<b>Vice President</b>
L. J. Cavaliere, Jr.	Janice Hebert	Lorry Trotter
Jessamy Charette	Garry Hubble	<b>Secretary</b>
David Couvillon	Debra Salvadras	Elisa Tubbs
Wilhelmenia DeCuir		<b>Treasurer</b>
		Glen Daigle

## CURRENT LIST OF FRIENDS

Thomas W. Acosta, Jr.	Jonathan & Brandi LeFeaux
Dana A. Ayo	Calvin & Becky Mayeux
Babs Babin and Family	Jane P. Middleton
Joyce & Kenneth Barbier	Modernaires Dance Club
Baton Rouge Community College	Andrea & Joey Normand
Michael & Jan Becnel	Dr. J. H. Odom, Jr.
Marlene Benedetto/Hubbens	Dr. Philip & Monica Padgett
Claire L. Bergeron	Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Pirie
Lorraine & Gordon Bergeron	Placid Refinery
Tom Bernard	Rod Prejean & Assoc., Inc.
Carolyn Blanchard	Rabalais Law
Mike & Pat Blanchard	Thelma & Noah P. Rizan, Jr.
Sue & Sid Blanchard	James & Theresa Rizzutto ***
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Barry & Susan Brewer	Julie & Kenny Rose
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Business First Bank	Debra & Ronnie Salvadras
Kim & Kerry Callegan	Claire Sarradet
Kym & Tony Cashiola	Dixie Scalise ***
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Glen Daigle	Bobby & Ruth Stanley
The Dow Chemical Company	Clay Stewart/State Farm Insurance
Linda Lowe Erley	Mike & Ellen Tausin
ExxonMobil	Lorry & Bill Trotter
Don & Marie Favrot	Al & Cathy Troy
William H. Forman, Jr.	Margot G. Turk
Ellis Gauthier & Family	J. Kenneth Washington
Sara & George "Skipper" Grady	West Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce
Jeff Guidry/Edward Jones	West Baton Rouge Convention & Visitors Bureau
Terry & Steve Guidry	West Baton Rouge Garden & Civic Club
Jason Hammack/Court Street Café	West Side Women's Club
Lee & Michelle Hart	Westside Homeschoolers
Garry Hubble Family	
Hugh's Place, Inc.	
Iberville Bank	
Edmond & Stacie Jordan***	<b>Welcome New Friends:</b>
Caroline Kennedy	Edmond & Stacie Jordan
Janice Kitchens-Melancon	James & Theresa Rizzutto
LA Farm Bureau Federation	Ms. Dixie Scalise
Lagniappe Dulcimer Society	
Mim and Najma Landry	
Harry L. Laws Co., Inc.	*** Denotes New 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](mailto:contact_us@wbrmuseum.org)

Website: [www.westbatonrougemuseum.com](http://www.westbatonrougemuseum.com)

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## Donations were received for the following Memorial Funds

### Acquisitions Memorial Fund

—  
**Ethel Claiborne Dameron Memorial Fund**

### Frank Carruth III Children's Fund

Jacqy Hitt – Marsha Best Turner  
Mike Ryan – Bobby & Ruth Stanley  
Mike Ryan – Ms. Jeanette G. Blaize  
Michael S. Ryan – Kathleen C. Higgins  
Mike Ryan – Jeanette S. Laurent  
Mike Ryan – Dana & Lindy Mosely  
Mike Ryan – Mary Scott Mosely Blake

### General Memorial Fund

Thomas Leon Bernard – John W. Wilbert, Jr.

### Museum Memorial Fund

In Honor of Mike and Stacy Ryan – James Levy

### 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 - 2016

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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