

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Members,

Thanks to Linda McMahan and Sarah Bellian for conducting an oral history interview with Floyd Frank, a recent inductee into the Hall of Fame of the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum. Mr. Frank's insights into the rodeo history of Cheek and his ranching experience with the McFaddins and Boyts of Jefferson County will be an important source of information for generations to come.



Left to Right - Mr. Floyd Frank, Ms. Sarah Bellian, Ms. Linda McMahan

Photo Credit: Rowena Jackson, Pct. 4

Thank you to all of our members for your time and service in preserving our history.

Theresa Goodness, JCHC Chair

### VOLUME 2016, ISSUE 6

#### In this issue:

Floyd Frank Oral History	2
Regional Archeology Workshop	3
START Meeting	4

### NOVEMBER, 2016

#### Special points of interest:

- \* Jefferson County Fast Facts
- \* Lincoln Burial Park photo

## JEFFERSON COUNTY FAST FACTS

**1914**

Year Florence Stratton started the Milk and Ice Fund to help provide poor families during the summer months with needed milk and ice.

**1/9/1934**

Date of accidental death of Mrs. Fred B. Hills at the Jefferson County Courthouse after suffering a fall down the elevator shaft from the eighth floor. Her husband filed a claim for \$26,000 in damages.

**April, 1909**

Month the Women's Club of Beaumont clubhouse was completed, and the first event held was a banquet in the auditorium for the Oil Producer's Association.

## FLOYD FRANK ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

Sarah Bellian and Linda McMahan met with Floyd Frank, Mr. and Mrs. Preston Frank, Commissioner “Bo” Alfred and his staff at the Precinct 4 Service Center on Tuesday, October 25, 2016 to record the life of 98 year old Floyd Frank. Floyd has lived in the area around Beaumont all of his life. As a young man, he worked for Boyts, then the McFaddins, on their ranches. Eventually he went into the business of upholstering furniture but continued ranch-related activities of his own, including the Sunday rodeos in Cheek.

Left to Right - Mr. Preston Frank, Mrs. Jackie Frank, Commissioner Everette "Bo" Alfred, Mr. Floyd Frank, Ms. Sarah Bellian, Ms. Linda McMahan, & Mr. Shedrick Evans

Photo Credit: Rowena Jackson, Pct. 4



## JCHC MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN 2016

November 16, 2016	Noon	JCHC Conference Room, Third Floor 1149 Pearl St., Beaumont, TX
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### VOLUNTEER HOURS AND MEMBERSHIP

Any work in the preservation or promotion of Jefferson County History may be counted toward your volunteer hours. JCHC meetings and travel time to and from meetings also count as volunteer hours. Members are reminded that at least 50 hours of volunteer work per year is required of each member.

Also with the number of hours, JCHC needs a general description of work performed, for example: 3 Hours – Marker Survey.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 409-835-8701 or contact Linda via email at [histcomm@co.jefferson.tx.us](mailto:histcomm@co.jefferson.tx.us)

### PRESERVATION PARTNERS

Beaumont Heritage Society  
Beaumont Landmark Commission  
Port Arthur Landmark Commission  
Texas Historical Foundation  
Beaumont Main Street  
Museum of the Gulf Coast

## REGIONAL ARCHEOLOGY WORKSHOP

In celebration of Archeology Month the Jefferson County Historical Commission hosted Dr. Kerry Nichols, East Texas Regional Archeologist, with the Texas Historical Commission, for a presentation on Wednesday, October 12, 2016, in the Jury Impaneling Room at the Jefferson County Courthouse.

Our appreciation and thanks to Linda McMahan, our coordinator and Secretary/Treasurer for planning this event, and Brenda Jackson, Executive Board member, for recommending and inviting our guest speaker.

Dr. Nichols holds a PhD. in anthropology from the University of Missouri, Columbia, a Master's Degree in Anthropology from the University of Colorado Denver, and a Bachelor's in Political Science and Government from the University of Northern Colorado. He has a broad range of experience from field archaeology to Section 106 reviewer to archivist.

Dr. Nichols presented a prehistoric and historic chronological and cultural background for Southeast Texas Archaeology, and also discussed significant recent cultural resource management projects in our area.

The regional workshop was attended by representatives of several area county historical commissions and interested members of the public. All attendees learned about the important work conducted at area archaeological sites and about how these studies contribute to our understanding of the prehistory and history of southeast Texas.



Regional Archeology Workshop  
Left: JCHC Chair, Theresa Goodness  
Right: Dr. Kerry Nichols, THCA archaeologist  
Photo Credit: Paul Prosperie



Regional Archeology Workshop  
Dr. Kerry Nichols giving his presentation  
Photo Credit: Paul Prosperie

## START MEETING

START is a meeting of representatives from Jefferson County and surrounding counties sharing what is going on in their areas. The October 13th meeting was hosted by Sandra Wilturner and the Evergreen Cemetery Foundation, Inc. board. Sandra has previously served on the JCHC and is now a member of the JCHC Advisory Committee. She shared the history of Evergreen Cemetery and plans for the future of the cemetery.



Photographs of START  
group meeting

Photo Credits:  
Paul Prosperie





## AREA MUSEUM UPCOMING EVENTS

### Museum of the Gulf Coast

Holiday Extravaganza      *December 10, 2016, 10-2 PM*

- \* *Christmas Carriage Rides*
- \* *Arts and Crafts*
- \* *Games*
- \* *Free Movie Screening of "Prancer"*
- \* Credit: [Museum of the Gulf Coast website](http://www.museumofthegulfcoast.org)



Museum of the Gulf Coast  
Photo Credit: [museumofthegulfcoast.org](http://museumofthegulfcoast.org)



John Jay French House Museum  
Photo Credit: Theresa Goodness

### The John Jay French House Museum

Heritage Happy Hour

November 18 @ 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Jefferson Theatre, 345 Fannin St., Beaumont, TX

The Jefferson Theatre is partnering with the Beaumont Heritage Society for this special Holiday Heritage Happy Hour! BHS MEMBERS will be given COMPLIMENTARY ENTRY into this family-friendly showing of the heart-warming holiday classic "It's a Wonderful Life" in the very place where Jimmy Stewart and Frank Capra made an appearance in March of 1947 as one of five nationwide premieres of the film. Credit: [John Jay French House Museum](http://www.johnjayfrenchhousemuseum.org)

### Chamber House Museum

The Beaumont Heritage Society invites you to take a tour of the Chambers House Museum located at 2240 Calder Avenue in Beaumont, Texas. The House is open for tours Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Saturday tour hours are from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Credit: [Chambers House Museum website](http://www.chambershousemuseum.org)



Chambers House Museum  
Photo Credit: [Chambers House Museum website](http://www.chambershousemuseum.org)

**JEFFERSON  
COUNTY  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION**

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Linda McMahan, Coordinator



*To preserve and  
promote history within  
the County.*

We're on the web!  
[http://co.jefferson.tx.us/  
Historical\\_Commission/](http://co.jefferson.tx.us/Historical_Commission/)

Lincoln Burial Park in  
October, 2016

Photo Credit:: Paul  
Prosperie



Jefferson County Historical Commission

Executive Board 2016 - 2017

Chairman, Theresa Goodness

1st Vice-Chairman, Les McMahan

2nd Vice-Chairman, Paul Prosperie

Secretary/Treasurer, Linda McMahan

Brenda Jackson

**ARCHEOLOGY EXHIBIT  
BY BRENDA JACKSON**

**JCHC MINI-MUSEUM**

Brenda Jackson, JCHC Executive Board member and Volunteer Archeological Steward for the Texas Archeological Stewardship Network, a program of the Texas Historical Commission, has installed an archeology themed exhibit featuring the David French house, McFaddin Beach and the Texas Archeological Society which is now on display in the Courthouse Mini-Museum through December. Come view the exhibit and learn about some of the interesting archeological sites in southeast Texas.



Archeology Exhibit in Mini-  
Museum

Photo Credit:: Theresa Goodness

