

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Members,  
 As we close out the year of 2018, we reflect on the rebuilding of our community after Hurricane Harvey. Even after a year, there is still work to be done and people who are still hurting in the aftermath. May our state and local government representatives continue to advocate on behalf of our communities. Thank you to all of our members for your time and service in preserving our history.

Happy Holidays!  
 Theresa Goodness, JCHC Chair



Chapter of China Tree, Woodmen Circle, China, Texas, Grove 924. Group was active between 1910 & 1930.  
 Credit: JCHC Archives

### VOLUME 2018, ISSUE 6

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### NOVEMBER, 2018

#### Special points of interest:

- \* Jefferson County Fast Facts
- \* Area Museum Upcoming Events

## JEFFERSON COUNTY FAST FACTS

1892

Year Joseph Eloi Broussard added rice milling equipment to his grist mill and thus initiated the Texas rice milling industry.

1902

Year the mill town of Voth was established on Pine Island Bayou. It was annexed by the City of Beaumont in 1957.

\$13,810

Amount the 1850 Census Schedule of Manufacturing showed of capital invested in industry, which employed just 25 workers and produced \$28,552 worth of products annually.

**TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
2019 ANNUAL MEETING**

**123rd Annual Meeting**

**February 28 - March 2, 2019, Omni Corpus Christi Hotel**

The largest gathering of its kind for Texas history enthusiasts. Join the leaders in the field for three days of sessions, networking, events, and professional development that will expand your knowledge, energize you, and help you to deepen your connections with the state's extraordinary past.

**Networking** - Each year a different Texas city serves as a fun and informative backdrop as Annual Meeting attendees gather. Meet with others who share your passion to learn more about new topics and perspectives on Texas history.

**Events** - Attend events such as the Women in Texas History Luncheon, Graduate Student Mixer, President-Elect's Reception, Book Lovers' & Texana Collectors' Breakfast, and Fellows Luncheon.

**Sessions** - TSHA's Annual Meeting has something for everyone as it offers 40 varied sessions from across the spectrum of Texas history including joint sessions with partner organizations such as the Texas Historical Commission.

Credit: [Texas State Historical Association website](http://www.tsha.org)

**UPCOMING JCHC MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN 2018**

Meetings to be held at Jefferson County Courthouse, 1149 Pearl Street, 3rd Floor, Beaumont, TX 77701 in the JCHC Conference Room.

- 11/14/2018 at Noon

**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

# TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION NEWS

## Texas Heritage Trails: 50th Anniversary Regional Roundup

The Texas Historical Commission is commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Texas Heritage Trails Program. As part of the celebration, THC is hosting a 10-month-long sweepstakes with prize packages for travel getaways for each of the 10 trail regions.

The [Stay an Extra Day Sweepstakes](#) originates from a Texas image marketing survey commissioned by Texas Governor John Connally in the mid-1960's. The survey showed many Americans did not think of Texas as a travel destination.

Connally's efforts to improve the state's image included a May 1967 presentation in Austin, where he asked the audience to consider that if tourists could be persuaded to stay only one more day, it would bring an additional \$188 million to the state's economy.

In 1997, the Texas Legislature appointed the Texas Historical Commission, one of the original entities on Connally's Texas Travel Trails committee, to develop a heritage tourism program for the state. The THC took the original concept of the trails and expanded them to include the surrounding counties to create a regional statewide heritage tourism program.

After you've visited a region's most-famous attraction or returned to your favorite restaurant, consider spending some additional time at one of these destinations or research your own ideas from among the thousands at [texastimetravel.com](http://texastimetravel.com).

Credit: [Texas Historical Commission website](#)

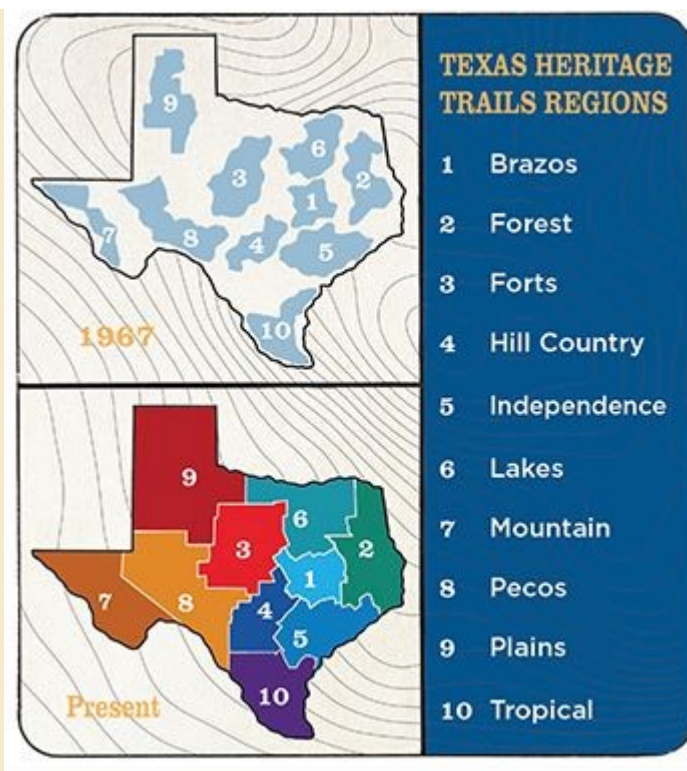


Photo Credit: [Texas Historical Commission website](#)

# DECEMBER PRESERVATION COMMUNITY EVENTS



Photo Credit: [Chambers House Museum website](http://Chambers House Museum website)

The Chambers House Museum will open for a special evening Christmas tour on Thursday, December 13, 2018 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Visitors will see the Chambers home decorated for the holidays with vintage ornaments, cards, toys and more ~ all items that belonged to the family. Interpreting the years 1920-1945, step back in time to see how the Chambers family would have celebrated Christmas! This event is free and open to the public. Credit: [Chambers House Museum website](http://Chambers House Museum website)

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Photo Credit: [McFaddin-Ward House Museum website](http://McFaddin-Ward House Museum website)

McFaddin-Ward House Museum  
Christmas Photo Opp!  
December 2 @ 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Make plans to have your holiday photo snapped on the grand staircase at the McFaddin-Ward House. Here's how:

1. Anytime between 1:00 – 3:30 p.m., check in at the Visitor Center at 1906 Calder Ave.
2. After your number is called, please wait near the front of the house and be completely ready for your photo.
3. Guests are allowed two photos only.
4. Please do not use any cosmetics, hairspray, etc. in the house or on the porch.
5. Our staff photographer will take your picture using your camera. Please have your camera ready when your number is called.

6. After your photo, feel free to tour the grounds and visit the Carriage House.

Credit: [McFaddin-Ward House Museum website](http://McFaddin-Ward House Museum website)

## AREA MUSEUM UPCOMING EVENTS

### Museum of the Gulf Coast

Opening January 19, 2019!

The Museum is still accepting loans of items for this salute to Southeast Texas High School sports! We are still looking for items from Lincoln High School, PN-G, Nederland, and Beaumont or Orange schools.

Credit: [Museum of the Gulf Coast website](#)



Museum of the Gulf Coast

Photo Credit: [museumofthegulfcoast.org](#)



Photo Credit: [Beaumont Heritage Society website](#)

### Beaumont Heritage Society

November 29 @ 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Join us at the iconic Mildred Building on November 29th from 5:30-7:30pm for an up-close look at this Mediterranean Revival beauty! Built in 1929 by oilman Miles Frank Yount as a monument to his adopted daughter Mildred, this building is the city's only example of an upper class apartment house to survive from the era after the second Spindletop oil boom. The 18 unit building has no two apartments alike, and was built with modern innovations including cooling and central vacuum. The Mildred Building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Enjoy craft beer showcased by Giglio Distributing Co (wine and non-alcoholic beverages also available) and good conversation in these beautiful Mediterranean inspired surroundings decorated for Christmas!

Credit: [Beaumont Heritage Society website](#)

### McFaddin-Ward House Museum

#### Eggnog Open House

December 13, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Our house is open to the public from 5:00 to 7:00 for an evening of magical splendor. View our gorgeous historic mansion like you've never seen in before, in the evening decorated for Christmas. Please bring the children! We'll have cookies, eggnog and special holiday entertainment.

Credit: [McFaddin-Ward House Museum website](#)



McFaddin-Ward House Museum

Photo Credit: [McFaddin-Ward House Museum website](#)

**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/)

1896 Photo of workmen  
building Neches River  
Bridge near Beaumont  
Credit: Sam Houston State  
Library archives



Jefferson County Historical Commission

Executive Board 2017 - 2018

Chairman, Theresa Goodness

1st Vice-Chairman, Les McMahan

2nd Vice-Chairman, Paul Prosperie

Secretary/Treasurer, Linda McMahan

Brenda Jackson

## JCHC MINI-MUSEUM

December exhibit to be announced at a later date.