



JEANERETTE LANDMARK SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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Benefactors Visit Home

On February 7, 2003, two major benefactors of the Landmark Society paid a visit to the Hewes



Home. Mr. Robert W. Flowerree, J. Clark Akers, and David Flowerree were in Jeanerette on other business and took the opportunity to visit the Hewes Home. They were hosted by members of the Board of Directors of the Landmark Society, and City officials. Mr. Robert Flowerree is the grandson of Harry Hewes, owner of the home from 1904 to 1953, and co-founder of Jeanerette Lumber and Shingle Company. Mr. Flowerree and his wife Elaine are lifetime members of the Society, and his private foundation has given a matching grant to the Society totaling \$72,000.00 to assist in the acquisition of the home property. His son David is also a lifetime member, and has been very helpful in initial fund raising efforts.

Society President, Ray Allain conducted the tour and introduced them to the local members of the welcoming party. Mr. Allain also used the occasion to thank them for their contributions to the Society and announced that Mr. Robert Flowerree had been named an Honorary member of the Board of Directors, by unanimous vote of the Board of

Directors at their last meeting.

Mr. J. Clark Akers, whose family was also prominent in the history of Jeanerette was accompanied on the visit by his wife Eleanor. Mr. Akers is credited with playing a large role in getting the Society off the ground. According to Allain, it was Clark Akers who first presented the idea to Mr. Flowerree. In addition, Mr. Akers and his wife Eleanor are lifetime members of the Society, together with his brother William and his wife. In addition, to provide momentum to the project in its initial stages, Clark Akers pledged a total of \$10,000.00 to the Society. Without the initial efforts of Clark Akers, this project would never have gotten started, Allain told board members.

Grants and Education Committee Hard at Work

With the help of lifetime member and volunteer, Gail Garcia, the committee has been working on grant applications which could help the Society to reach its fund raising goals. Mrs. Garcia works for the St. Mary Parish Library and has considerable experience in grant writing. The Committee met on March 20, 2003 to review the applications in



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grant application for the Atchafalaya Basin Program from which the Society hopes to receive funding in the fiscal year 2003-2004. Gail is working on an application to the ASave Americas Treasures@ Program sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. A grant request is also being prepared for submission to the Reily Foundation in New Orleans. Mr. Flowerree has provided some extra impetus for the Reily grant by making a personal request to the foundation through his friend Mr. Boatner Reily.

Additional sources of grants are being researched and, when and where appropriate, applications will be submitted for specific purposes, including those providing funding for ADA compliance, educational purposes, and other similar special purpose grants.

Anyone having information about sources of grants which may be appropriate for the current project, or who wishes to assist the committee in its work, should call Chairman, Paula Louviere, or Gail Garcia.

Board Appoints Architect for Hewes Project

The board of directors, at its March 26th meeting, voted to appoint **Paul Allain** as the project architect for the Hewes House restoration and development. Paul, (pictured on page one attending the Grants Committee meeting) is a native of New Iberia and has been practicing architecture for over 22 years in Acadiana.

He has worked on projects such as Alice C. Plantation bed and breakfast, Mintmere, Le Rosier, Gabriel Oak House, and Maison Marceline, all of which are listed on the National Register. He has also worked on improvements to the Jeanerette Museum and is presently working on the New Iberia Museum project.

Paul received the Times of Acadiana 2003 Silver Rivet Award for his work on the renovation of the Gouggenhiem Building in downtown New Iberia. Paul has lent his support and expertise to the Jeanerette Landmark project from its inception and has met with state officials to have the house recognized as a landmark property. He will bring both dedication and experience to the project which will help ensure its successful completion.

What have we lost?

A new feature of the newsletter, this column will provide a glimpse of the past, highlighting some of the Jeanerette landmarks which have passed



into history. These pictures, we hope, will serve as a reminder of the purpose for which the Society was created. The picture above is of the **Monnot Home**. Originally located on Main Street, just to the west of the A. Moresi Foundry, the house was torn down during the 1970's to make room for a parking lot next to the foundry.

Finance Committee Report

Fund raising totaled **\$132,371.00** by March 30, 2003. The Society now needs only \$12,000.00 to complete its agreement with Mr. Flowerree to match the contribution made by the Flowerree Foundation. Mr. Flowerree was kind enough to advance his matching grant before the Society reached its goal in order to enable the Society to purchase the Hewes house and property. Expenses incurred for the year 2003, to date, total slightly over \$300. The balance of funds on deposit in the bank at March 31, 2003 was \$130,528.98.

Purchase of Hewes Home to be completed by end of April

Sale documents for the purchase of the Hewes Home by the Landmark Society are nearly completed and it is anticipated that the property will be acquired by the Landmark Society within the next several weeks.

Several of the Hasten heirs, who are selling the home to the Society, have generously dedicated part of the proceeds of the sale back to the Society, becoming Lifetime members.

LANDMARK SOCIETY BOARD KICKS OFF BUSINESS PARTNER PROGRAM!

The Board of the Jeanerette Landmark Society has approved a program to recruit members and supporters from the business community and plans to start soliciting ABusiness Partners@ will begin prior to the end of April. A business partner membership brochure has been prepared and will be mailed with a personal letter from the President listing all of the reasons why business leaders should consider supporting the goals of the Society. Business Partners will be asked to contribute to the Capital Improvement Fund to help the Society raise the money which will be necessary to restore the Hewes Home and related improvements. However their participation as business partner members will also be important to the viability of the Society to support the continuing operation and maintenance needs of the Hewes project, as well as future Society projects.

The Business Partner Membership Brochure lists important reasons for business leaders to support the efforts of the Society. A few of those are:

- S *Attract tourists and tourist related business. Towns and cities that protect their historic areas attract more visitors, and those people stay longer and spend more*
- S *Make facilities available to you, your family, your customers and employees for meetings, dining, and other public and private functions*
- S *Attract outside investment in the community*
- S *Encourage growth and investment in the community*
- S *Bring new dollars into our community*
- S *Increase land values in the City*
- S *Multiply the value of your investment in the community by attracting matching grants to the City*
- S *Promote a positive image for your business through Society endorsements and recognition of your efforts*
- S *Create more attractive places to live and work. The style and variety of historic places make communities much better to look at*
- S *Improve the appearance of Main Street and encourage further preservation and improvement projects in the City*
- S *Improve the community image and promote pride in the City*
- S *Preserve the history and culture of our community*
- S *Provide educational opportunities for our children and adults relating to the history and culture of the area*

Business leaders will be asked to become a business partner member by paying a minimum membership fee of \$250.00. In the initial stages of the Hewes House project, membership fees will be used to assist in funding the capital needs of the project. However, once the restoration of the house and construction of complimentary facilities is completed these fees will be dedicated to the continuing operation and maintenance needs of the project and other projects which the Society may initiate. Beyond the minimum annual membership fee, the Society will ask each business to determine what level of contribution it is able to make to the Capital Improvement Fund. Obviously, some business will be able to lend more financial support than others. But the most important thing, from the perspective of the Society, is the participation of as many businesses and individuals as possible, at whatever level they see fit to contribute.

Take an opportunity to let the business people with whom you come into contact know how important this project is and support the businesses who support the Landmark Society!

- a personal message from the President

MEMBERS are our most IMPORTANT ASSET !

One board member recently observed that, if each current member of the Society would recruit 2 new members we could increase membership virtually overnight to over four hundred members. In the initial stages of the formation of the organization, nearly every current member of the Society was personally asked to join. Although press coverage has been very favorable, very few people have become a member without having been personally contacted by some one who believed in what we were doing. **So, we ask** each of you to contact friends, family members, people with whom you do business, and anyone you can talk to about the project - urge them to support our goals by becoming a member, and with your help we can meet and exceed the goals we have set. This is a volunteer effort, it depends upon word of mouth, so help us by doing some talking about us. The most amazing thing about working on this project is that virtually everyone that I have asked personally to become a member has done so. Once we have reached the 200 member mark, we will be eligible for bulk mailing rates which will save considerable resources in our newsletter and solicitation mailings. In addition, the more people who participate, the more successful will be the results of our efforts.

Raymond E. Allain. Sr.

Local Company with Jeanerette ties becomes first Business Partner Member!

A local company, **Cypremort Point, Inc.** became the first Business Partner Member when its Board of Directors, on March 21st, approved a four year pledge of \$250.00 annually. The Company has extensive property holdings at Cypremort Point and leases lots for recreational camps to people throughout the regional area. Current stockholders of the company are descendants of several old Jeanerette families, including A. P. Moresi, George I. Robichaux, Herbert Bonvillain, Clare Bonvillain Monin, Douglas Robichaux, and Doug and Doris Robichaux Callender. Current President, Roger Venden and his wife Manon Robichaux Venden, who serves as Secretary of the Company, expressed praise and support for the Landmark efforts. Other members of the Board of Directors with Jeanerette ties include Valerie Monin Hartnett and Robert Monin.

Pictures and History Sought



Since this project began, we have been fortunate to receive information from many people who have knowledge of the Hewes family, the Jeanerette Lumber and Shingle Company, or other related historic facts. But we need more. We would particularly like to have pictures of the Hewes house as it looked at the turn of the century.

If you have any information that you think would be of use to our project, please contact one of the board members at the Society P. O. Address. We will make copies of documents and pictures and return the original to you immediately.

**BOARD VOTES TO KEEP
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS
open through JUNE 30, 2003 !**

The Board of Directors of the Landmark Society voted recently to extend the deadline for the purchase of Lifetime Memberships through June 30, 2003. In the initial fund raising drive, lifetime memberships were only supposed to be available until December 31, 2002. However, the offer proved so popular that there have been requests by many people who would like to make a larger contribution to the work of the Society, and particularly married couples who have an opportunity to list both names on the roll of membership.

If you are interested in becoming a lifetime member, or upgrading your membership to lifetime, contact one of the Directors.

HONOR ROLL of SUPPORTERS

LIFETIME CHARTER MEMBERS: \$1,000

AKERS, J. CLARK & ELEANOR M.
AKERS, WILLIAM B. & JOANN D
ALLAIN, RAY & REBECCA
ALLAIN, WILBUR L. SR. MRS.
BOURGEOIS DR. BARROW & MARY
CYR, MRS. CHARLES
DERISE, NELLIE L.
FITZPATRICK, CLAIRE
FLOWERREE, DAVID
FLOWERREE, ELAINE D.

FLOWERREE, JOHN HEWES
FLOWERREE, ROBERT E.
FLOWERREE, SOAMES STEWART
FORTIER, G. A., JR. & KAY D.
FRESHLEY, ROBERT L. & MARY FAY L.
FUHRER, BILL & BARBARA ALLAIN
GARCIA, DONOVAN AND GAIL
GUILLOTTE, ROBERT
HEBERT, MRS. RONALD R., SR.
ISAAC, DESIREE HASTEN & CARL

LABICHE, WAYNE M.
LARROQUE, GERALDINE
LEMAIRE, FABIAN & PATRICIA A.
LORIO, DR. AND MRS. MIKE
LOUVIERE, ELDRIDGE & PAULA CYR
MCJUNKINS, GEORGE & RAE
SIMMONS, JUDGE CAMERON & TIA
SIMMONS, NANINE
SMITH, EDWARD & VIRGINIA
WOODS, ELLEN F.

FIRST YEAR CHARTER MEMBERS: \$100

ALLAIN, BRET
ALLAIN, CHRISTOPHER J.
ALLAIN, GREGORY M. DR.
ALLAIN, JENNIFER
ALLAIN, LARRY K.
ALLAIN, MARY K.
ALLAIN, PAUL J.
ALLAIN, RAYMOND E. JR.
ALLAIN, RICHARD S.
ALLAIN, MRS. ROBERT L.
ALLAIN, STEVEN M.
ALLAIN, WILBUR L. JR.
APRILL, DONNIE
BEAULLIEU, ELTON, JR.
BELLEFONTAINE, JOHN F.
BELLEFONTAINE, WILLIAM
BISHOP, MRS. DON
BISHOP, LUCINDA Y.
BODIN, ALICE
BODIN, CALVIN
BOURGEOIS, BETSY BARROW
BOURGEOIS, BUTCH
BOURGEOIS, DANA
BOURGEOIS, JOHN
BOURGEOIS, ST. PAUL, III
BOURGEOIS, SARAH ELIZABETH M.
BRYANT, WALTER
CHAMPAGNE, SIMON
CYR, SANDRA LEE
DE LA CONCHA, VIRGINIA ALLAIN.

DOOLEY, MRS. VIRGIS P.
ELDRIDGE, GERARD
FALTERMAN, DR. JAMES SR.
FITCH, DEANO
FITCH, JEROME
FLOWERREE, ANN
GRANGER, THOMAS
GUIBERTEAU, FRANK
HAMMONDS, PATRICIA
HARGRODER, ROSEMARY H.
HEBERT, MRS. GERALD "MARY"
HEBERT, RONALD R., JR.
HEBERT, SHERIFF SID
HEBERT, TROY
HOFFPAUIR, ANGELA L.
HOOVER, MRS. LOUIS
LAMPO, MRS. LARRY C.
LANCON, TODD
LANCON, JOHN ARTHUR
LANDRY, DARRYL
LANDRY, LORI ANN
LAPEYROUSE, J. P.
LARROQUE, ELIZABETH B.
LARROQUE, JACQUES
LARROQUE, MARY ELLEN
LEGNON, MRS. TED
LORIO, ANNA CAROLINE
LORIO, JUSTIN MICHAEL
MALAHMEH, DR. ADEL
MCGOWEN, LEIGH

MEKASH, JANICE
MIGUES, ALFRED "FREDDY"
MIGUES, MRS. JEROME "PAT"
MINVIELLE, FRANK
MINVIELLE, JOYCE
O'BRIEN, PAT
PALMER, MONIQUE A.
PARKER, PEGGY
PARSONS, BETH MIGUES
PATOUT, BARBARA ROANE
PATOUT, JUDITH
PATOUT, MARK
PATOUT, PETER
PATOUT, ROBERT
PERELLO, KELLY LORIO
ROANE, CAROLYN
ROBIN, WILLIAM M. JR.
ROSAMOND, ANDRE "RED"
ROSAMOND, KATHLEEN
ROSAMOND, TANYA
ROSAMOND, J. B.
SCHEXNAYDER, DR. RAYMOND
SCHEXNAYDER, VIRGINIA
SIMMONS, CAMERON, JR.
SIMMONS, JENNIFER
VERRET, ARTHUR L.
VERRET, LEONARD J.
VERRET, MARY M.
WATTIGNY, JUDGE GERARD
WILSON, WILLIE
WORMSER, NANNIE BELLE

LIFETIME POST-CHARTER MEMBERS:

FITCH, COY

FIRST YEAR POST-CHARTER MEMBERS:

FOSTER, MIKE
BEUERMAN, WINIFRED WILLIAMSON

OTHER DONATIONS & PLEDGES BY INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS & CORPORATIONS

\$75,000 and over

ROBERT E. FLOWERREE
(Flowerree Foundation)

\$25,000 and over

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF JEANERETTE

\$10,000 to 24,999

J. CLARK AKERS & WILLIAM B. AKERS

\$5,000 to \$9,999

COX CABLE

\$1,000 to \$4,999

LIONEL DELCAMBRE VFW POST 8150
RELIANT ENERGY

\$100 to \$999

BOURGEOIS, ST. PAUL, III
CLECO
FLOWERREE, ANN
HAMMONDS, PATRICIA
JEANERETTE KIWANIS CLUB
JEAN. HISTORIC COMMISSION
ROBIES FOOD CENTER

WE APPLAUD THE GENEROSITY AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND EXTEND OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO ALL
THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE GOALS OF THE JEANERETTE LANDMARK SOCIETY.

THE JEANERETTE LANDMARK SOCIETY SUPPORTS **The** **JEANERETTE MUSEUM**

Created in 1976 to celebrate the Bicentennial of the United States, the Jeanerette Museum, located at 500 East Main Street, is the repository of numerous artifacts depicting the history of the City. Run by dedicated volunteers, the museum is a jewel in the community and a favorite of visitors to the City. The Society believes that the Hewes Home will complement its efforts and urges all members to support its work.



THE JEANERETTE LANDMARK SOCIETY THANKS THE FOLLOWING



BUSINESSES FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

The Jeanerette Landmark Society is dedicated to the Preservation of Historic Landmarks - Promoting Education and Appreciation of History - and Improving the Quality of Life in the community of Jeanerette.