

Port Aransas Preservation and Historical Association

Volume 3, Issue 1

PAPHA Newsletter

January 2009

Music to Fill the Air: *Band Alumni to Join In*

Did you ever play in a Port Aransas Band? If you still have some musical

Marlin Band after their performance in a concert Thursday, Jan. 29.

This historical event, hopefully an annual one, is sponsored by the Port Aransas Preservation and Historical Association (PAPHA) and the City of Port Aransas Parks and Recreation Department. The proceeds from this “fun” and “fund” raiser are for the new Port Aransas Museum, the first museum

See ‘Concert’ on Page 3



skills, you, along with all former Port Aransas band members, are invited to bring instruments to jam a song or two with the Port Aransas High School

The public is invited to hear great concert music followed by a jam session by “oldies but goodies” at the Port Aransas Civic Center, 710 W. Ave. A.

Online Auction Set: <http://portaransas.cmarket.com>

As part of the PAPHA plan to raise funds for a museum design company that will design, fabricate and install three to five permanent exhibits, the organization is sponsoring Port Aransas' first non-profit online auction as our first fundraiser.

The site won't be open for bidding until 9am, on Saturday, Feb. 14. Currently listed items are available for viewing now, with more items added daily, at <http://portaransas.cmarket.com>.

The auction will remain open for bidding online through March 4 at 10pm.

During the course of the auction email alerts will be sent to report new auction items and advise site progress.

So check it out, bid when open and be proud to know you had a part in bringing professional, high-tech, interactive exhibits to the museum.

Anyone who has items to donate for the online auction may contact Betty Bundy at 361-749-3406 or ggbun7@centurytel.net. Online auction items will get worldwide exposure, bringing advertising benefits. All participation will be greatly appreciated.

*Visit the Port
Aransas Museum
Open Thursday - Saturday
1 - 5pm
Open all day Saturday,
January 24.*

Old Town Festival set

Mark your calendars for the 3rd Annual Old Town Festival to be held Saturday, March 7.

A parade, storytellers, games for kids, music, wine and cheese, silent auction, museum tours, culminate in a fancy sit-down dinner with a live auction.

See ‘Festival’ on Page 3

Inside this Issue:

<i>Nancy's Notes</i>	Page 2
<i>Cattle Era</i>	Page 3
<i>Help Wanted</i>	Page 3
<i>Stricker</i>	Page 4
<i>Cataloging</i>	Page 4

Want to become involved?

PAPHA offers many opportunities: individuals, families & businesses can become members (see page 6); donate for the online or silent auction (see page 5); be a docent (see page 5); help with Old Town Festival (see page 3); offer skill in any area (leave message at 749-3800)

Nancy's Notes

--a message from the museum interim director

The museum is open, and what a beautiful thing it is! Everyone is finding it fascinating.

The gift shop is getting a lot of ooohs and aaahs as well. Items sold there are either made in the area or have a direct connection to our area. The biggest surprise to me has been the amount of quality and desirable merchandise that is available locally. We are gathering it all into one spot for you to enjoy!

We have a couple of jewelry makers here in Port Aransas that are truly fantastic. Linda Hansen makes primarily dichroic glass jewelry, but her selection is so broad. She recently added a line of fun things for young girls.

Corrinne VanVeen is a local artist who makes beaded jewelry integrating handmade glass beads made by her daughter, who lives in Corpus Christi. Each piece is a work of art glass.

Our jewelry makers will also do custom work. Just let us know if you want a pair of earrings to match the necklace you purchased and we'll have it made for you.

Susan LeFevre of Port Aransas, owner of Red Canyon Jewelry, is selling items she acquires when travelling to the southwestern part of the country made by Indians.

Of course, you can't miss the great jar candles in our shop. A special line with our logo has been created by Whitecap Candle Company. They are poured down at the other end of the island, on North Padre. Friends of mine who have often visited here for years, bought one while here, and stock up each time they visit because the candles are so great. The scents are light, but enduring, and the candles last better than any I've had.

A new consignment merchant is Laurie Strain from Port Aransas. She has darling soaps and candles, even a sharks tooth with necklace, perfect for kids. A wide variety of items are available for purchase.

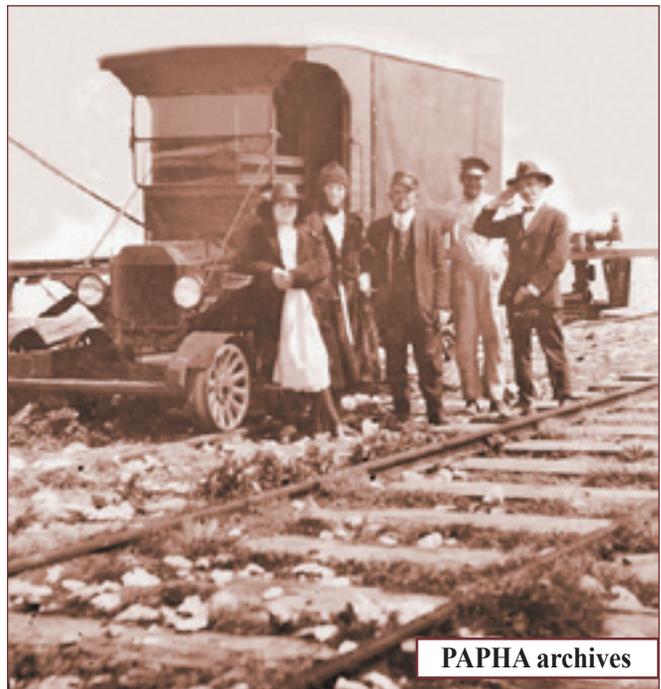
I have to mention the great seaweed soaps made by Nancy Kilgore. They come in all fragrances, last a very long time, and carry the label "made in Port Aransas."

Mickey Taylor has made the most marvelous collection of china silk dyed scarves. You have to come by and see them. She gets such unbelievably great colors in those scarves.

If you're an admirer of hand thrown pottery, you're going to be in heaven with our selection. Brenda, one of the Potters on Cotter, has brought in the best of the best of their beautiful work. She and her husband, Ken, are such a great team. They are now working on new items to update our displays.

For fun t-shirts featuring some of our fabulous photo

**TREAT YOURSELF OR A FRIEND WITH ANY
OF THE TERRIFIC ITEMS IN OUR GIFT SHOP
INSIDE THE MUSEUM - JEWELRY, CALENDARS,
CANDLES, SOAPS, POTTERY, POSTCARDS, BOOKS,
TOTE BAGS, T-SHIRTS, PHOTOS & MUCH MORE.**



collection, come in and choose your size. We also have great tote bags featuring an old ferry photo. Calendars are still available with the old photos suitable for framing. They always draw interest, as are the postcards. And you can purchase an engraved brick paver or block to be placed into the sidewalk in front of the museum. We will help with the wording if needed.

Our collection of books for sale is growing. We are selling one by "Cactus" Pryor that is getting lots of attention. It's his latest which will not actually be out until February, but we have them already for sale in the shop. Historian John Ford has placed his latest local history book in the shop for purchase.

For children, we have the mini-book by Elda Mae Roberts which is "The story of the Tree." My grandson delighted in the story and couldn't believe it was actually true. Actually, I loved reading it also.

We're in contact with three other artists to possibly carry in our shop. If you know of someone, please let us know. We want our local artisans to sell in the museum gift shop!

Help Wanted

**Got time? Got talent?
Want to make a difference?**

PAPHA has many ways for people to contribute time for the benefit for the entire town.

Docents, volunteers guiding tours in the museum, are still being sought. If you want to help, call Docent Coordinator Mary Hammond McKnight at 361-749-6995 or leave a message on the museum phone, 749-3800.

Talent in any area or just willingness to do the mundane is appreciated as well. Call the museum at 749-3800 and leave a message. We will call back!

Concert Continued from Page 1

in Port Aransas existing solely to display all aspects of Port Aransas history.

In addition to an enjoyable concert, attendees will have a chance to win a door prize of four hockey tickets.

Tickets are available now from any PAPHA board member, at the Port Aransas Museum located at the corner of Alister and Brundrett Sts., at the Port A Gallery, 345 N. Alister St., Bilmore & Son Hardware, 115 S. Alister St., or by calling Betty Bundy at 749-3406 or PAPHA at 749-3800.

The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids and under 5 are free. Popcorn will be provided.

Former band members who would like to participate should email PAHS Band Director Jim

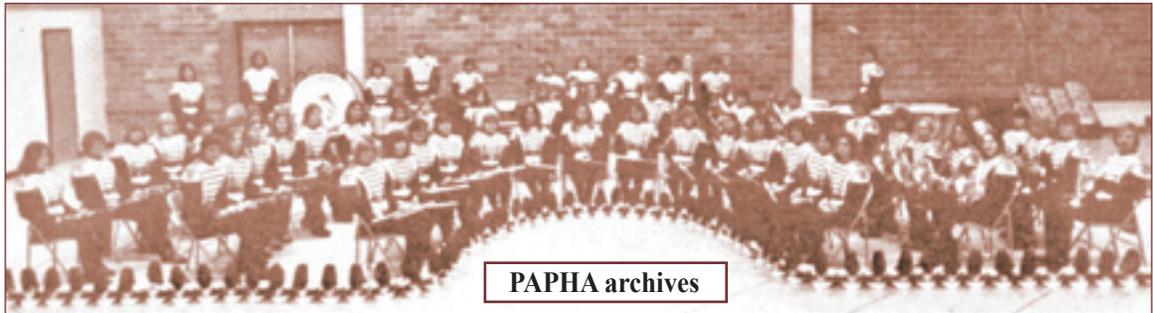
Cole at jimcole@paisd.net or PAPHA Correspondence Secretary Sylvia Buttler at buttler@paisd.net.

Cole will post the music parts on the district high school band website for former band members to access for practice. He will have a practice for former band members on Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 7pm at the high school band hall for those who are in town. Another practice for current and former band members will be offered at 8am Thursday morning at the high school

groups at the Civic Center at 6pm before the 7pm performance.

Adding the alumni was the brainchild of Port Aransas Ben Brundrett, who played in the junior high school band during the 1960s. His family has connections to island founding families and his wife, Marilyn Cook is a PAPHA founding board director.

Buy a ticket, load up on popcorn, listen to our youth of Port A and 'historic' band members play some tunes, all while helping support our town's museum.



PAPHA archives

band hall. For those rushing into town for the concert, he will meet with both

The Mustang Cattle Era

BY JOHN G. FORD

The Civil War caused Islanders to leave Mustang from 1862 to 1866. When they returned, they found themselves at the threshold of Reconstruction, as Texans began to pull their beloved State back from America's most devastating war.

The postwar situation for the Islanders was actually quite favorable. Of the whole Confederacy, the coastal and near-coastal regions of South Texas had the greatest potential for rapid economic rebound. In great abundance, these regions had what the war had depleted above the Mason-Dixon Line: cattle. Northern industries were sorely in need of leather for clothing and footwear, tallow for soap and candles, bone and horns for fertilizer and glue—not to mention people's appetite for thick beef steaks.

Islanders had successfully run livestock on Mustang Island beginning in 1855, so a decade later it was a knowledgeable group that entered the booming cattle industry. (Great herds also grazed the red

grass of Padre and St. Joseph Islands.) The Mustang cattle business entailed maintaining herds—facilitated by the small area and natural water “fence,” and the marine transport of beeves to area packing plants, called packeries, where cattle products were rendered and shipped to market. Mustang was not a prominent packery locale, but close-by Rockport and Fulton were. (The current Packery Channel historically reflects a plant being next to that waterway.)

The Mustang cattle business boomed for about fifteen years. By the 1880s, South Texas cattlemen had established trails to Midwest railheads from which live animals were expediently rolled to Northern marketplaces. Coastal packeries and their maritime shippers began to shut down, and the Mustang herds were reduced to domestic sizes. A significant economic and cultural era had passed, but new and exciting times lay just over the horizon for Mustang Island and her intrepid people.

Festival Continued from Page 1

Everyone is invited to participate and watch the parade which will wind around old town historical sites.

Any type of transportation may sign up for the parade. Signed up so far are golf carts, floats, go-kart, bicycles, trucks and feet. Animals are welcome, only not horses without poop bags.

Decorating is encouraged, the more outrageous the better. Show how Port A can celebrate our town and its inhabitants, businesses and visitors.

Sign up by calling Festival Chairman Pam Greene at 361-443-4683 or by email at rattraxx@centurytel.net and pamg@cityofportaransas.org. Volunteers also will be appreciated.

Anyone who has been in Port Aransas a long time is asked to participate in the storytelling. The tales will be told on the great new porch of the Community Center and in the courtyard of the Community Center and the Port Aransas Museum. Anyone willing to speak or who knows anyone with interesting tales, please contact Pam Greene.

Let's make this a true community celebration, with all of us just out there having fun together.

Got Port A photos you can share? Call the museum at 361-749-3800.

Artifact and memorabilia loan cataloging continues



The Port Aransas Museum is looking for anyone who has memorabilia or artifacts with a Port Aransas connection willing to share with the public.

All items will be documented and borrowed to compliment exhibits of like themes. Because this "starter" historical museum is so small, and PAPHA does not have a lot of storage room, borrowed items are being sought rather than donations.

Anyone with something for consideration is asked to contact PAPHA board member Rick Pratt at 361-749-3193 or camric@the-i.net.

Along with this, photos are being copies and added to the PAPHA collection for the organization to use.

If you have some treasured photos or document you will share, please call the museum at 749-3800 and leave a message.

PAPHA marches into the New Year

BY PAPHA PRESIDENT SHARON STRICKER

What a year 2008 was, and I expect 2009 to be even better.

I don't know which date I was more excited about this last year; April 24, when the house started moving across Oleander between Bilmore's and Cita's and made it down Alister to Brundrett; December 9, when we opened to the members of the founding families; or December 10, when we opened to the general public. These three days were so monumental to PAPHA.

THANKS to Larry Charles, Marilyn Cook, Mary Goodwin, and Steve Roberts for their service to PAPHA over the past several years. They leave the board this year, Larry and Marilyn as founding board directors, but we are counting on them to continue to help in numerous activities. We are happy to welcome our new board members Randy D'Herde, Herb Lancaster, Christina Milligan, and Chris Shanklin. We look forward to their participation. They

have already contributed so much to this organization.

THANKS to the many docents who have trained so diligently and all of you working behind the scenes. We certainly couldn't do this without ya'll.

THANKS to Jerry and Jane Gnazzo, for providing a fantastic place at The Moorings for a fundraiser. This fundraiser really enabled us to continue our work on the museum building at a crucial time.

THANKS to Boo and Meta Hausser. They provided a great setting for a fundraiser at their home in San Antonio. With this fundraiser, we were able to put the final touches on the museum so we could open. Most attendees in San Antonio own homes in Port A, so they had many great stories and photos of their visits to Port A.

THANKS to Bruce Reynolds for overseeing the refurbishing of our museum home. He had to schedule electrical, A/C, plumbing, drywall,

carpenters, painters, hardware, tile, flooring, etc., in a logical sequence, so the contractors weren't stumbling all over each other, and then the bills came due. Frequently, we agonized over what had to be scheduled next and whether we could pay our way.

THANKS to our many donors. Each time a significant payment came due, our donors came through. You are all very important to PAPHA.

A special THANKS to Edith McAlister and Betty Turner for their very substantial donations enabling us to keep our rehab going at a couple of very critical times.

During our next phase we will be scheduling the fabrication and installation of our displays. We need sponsors for these displays, and we still have some interior areas that need sponsors. If you can help, contact any board member.

We were able to accomplish so much in 2008 and have much more to accomplish in 2009. Thanks to you, it's working.

Donation Form for the Port Aransas Museum Online Auction

Donor Name _____

Address _____

Tel. _____ cell _____ Email _____

1. Item Information: Item Name _____

Detailed Description: _____

2. All a bidder would want to know before placing a high bid: Specifications, dimensions; manufacturer if known; age if relevant; Shipping considerations or added charges. Of special note: Any restrictions, limitations, all key notes related to the item. _____

3. Estimated Value: Retail value/ best fair market estimate \$ _____ Opening bid (if restricted) \$ _____

4. Photo if available should be sent by email (.jpg or .gif at 300 x 300 pixels) with detailed identification to salinda.nowell@ubs.com or attach a picture to the form.

5. Your name as you wish it to appear on line _____

6. Link/URL: URL for your Website (ex: <http://www.Your company.com>) _____

Call Betty Bundy with any questions at 361-749-3406. Email your logo (.jpg or .gif at 300 pixels x 300 pixels) to salinda.nowell@ubs.com. Mail the Membership form with check and the Auction donation form to PAPH A, PO Box 677, Port Aransas TX 78373, Attn: Reynolds and Bundy

A brief description of donor (business, etc.) _____

PAPHA Office Use Only _____

Brick Paver, Blocks Available

Leave your own mark on Port A. Brick Pavers and Blocks still are being sold to line the walkways to the museum. The pavers measure 4" x 8" and are engraved with 3 lines of 14 characters. The blocks measure 16" x 16" and are engraved with 14 lines of 30 characters. Call Betty Bundy at 361-749-3406 or email ggbun7@centurytel.net for a form.

Join the Merchant Member's Recognition Program!

As a **Lifetime Merchant Member** making a donation of \$10,000, you receive: • a window sticker and poster for your business • name on plaque at the door of the museum; • name in book in the museum; • free admission to museum; • invitation to annual recognition party (one free table at the party); • one 16' x 16' block paver (includes engraving of 14 lines with 30 characters to a line) in our Museum Memory Sidewalk.

As a **Gold Merchant Member** making an annual donation of \$1,000, you receive: • window sticker and poster for your business; • your name on plaque at the door of the museum; • your name in book in the museum; • free admission to museum; • invitation to annual recognition party (one free table at the party).

As a **Silver Merchant Member** making an annual donation of \$500, you receive: • window sticker and poster for your business; • name on plaque at the door of the museum; • name in book in the museum; • 50% discount on admissions per year to museum; • invitation to annual recognition party (one half free table at the party).

As a **Bronze Merchant Member** making an annual donation of \$100, you receive: • window sticker and poster for your business; • name in book in the museum; • 25% discount on admissions per year to museum; • invitation to annual recognition party.

As a **Supporter Merchant Member** making an annual donation of \$50, you receive: • window sticker and poster for your business • name in book in the museum; • invitation to annual recognition party.

Merchant Member Application to the Port Aransas Preservation & Historical Association

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

BUSINESS NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY: _____ VALUE: _____

CHECK # _____ DATE: _____ YEAR CREDITED: _____

2009 PAPHA Personal Membership Application [tax deductible]

Category	Contribution	Category	Contribution	Category	Contribution
Individual.....	\$20 per year	Family	\$30 per year	Business	\$50 per year
Student (individual)	\$2 per year	Student (w/class or group)..	\$1/year	Lifetime	\$1000
Organizations.....	\$1/member per year-\$25 max.				

Supporting Memberships:

Decade.....\$26 - \$50/year Century

.....\$51 - \$100/year
 Epoch.....\$101 - \$500/year Millennium

Name(s) _____ Phone _____ Membership Category _____

Address _____ # in Family (Family membership only) _____

(Club/Organization only) - # of members _____ (Student with class only) - # of students _____

E-mail _____ Ck # _____ Amount _____

Send either or both applications to: PAPHA, PO Box 677, Port Aransas, TX 78373. For more information, contact Betty Bundy at 361-749-3406 or by email at ggbun7@centurytel.net