

MINUTES
General Meeting
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
January 20, 2004
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2010 Strand
GALVESTON, TX 75550

BOARD PRESENT: President, Jeffrey Modzelewski; First Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Second Vice-President, Mike Eubank; Third Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Historian, Jean L. Epperson; Press Director, Dave Roberts; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler; Coordinator-of-Research, Pam Keyes; Archivist (office vacant)

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: Jean L. Epperson; R. Dale Olson; Reginald Wilson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Ron and Beth Austin; Sheldon Kindall; Norman and Marguerite Sachnik; Betty Wilson; Wil Zapalac

CALL TO ORDER

The President called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

No corrections or additions to Minutes as transmitted by e-mail.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jerry Eubank presented a written report of disbursements and deposits showing a beginning balance on Nov. 18, 2003 of \$2,184.30, and an ending balance on January 20, 2004 of \$2,358.84. Also included in her report was a list of the December holiday party expenses, itemized inventory of party purchases, expenses paid and remaining, and a suggested list of party items for next year's event

Advisory Board Member R. Dale Olson suggested that members consider inviting certain consular officials as well as members of the Simón Bolívar Society to next year's Laffite Society holiday party

THE LAFFITE SOCIETY CHRONICLES

The President extended thanks to Mike and Jerry Eubank for overseeing the printing, mailing, and distribution of the latest issue of the Society's publication, Vol. X, No. 1, February, 2004, as well as thanks to Editor-of-Publications Don C. Marler in absentia for his editorial preparation..

2004 MEMBERSHIP LIST

An updated membership list dated January 20, 2004, prepared by Membership Chairman Mike Eubank was issued to members present along with a copy of *The Chronicles*. According to Jerry Eubank, on file are 67 paid memberships.

A suggestion was offered by Third Vice-President Kathy Modzelewski to include a copy of the updated membership list with each issue of *The Chronicles* at the time of mailing or distribution. Members were reminded to let the Eubanks know of any changes in phone number, e-mail and home addresses.

VIDEOS AND AUDIO TAPES

The Secretary reminded members to return any audio and video tapes borrowed from the archive.

BAY ISLAND TALK

Advisory Board Member Reginald Wilson spoke briefly about his article in the latest issue of *The Chronicles* which is one of twenty accounts he has written on his trips with his wife Betty Wilson to the Bay Islands located off the coast of Honduras.

TRANSLATION OF *LOS PIRATAS LAFFITE*

President Jeff Modzelewski who is currently working on the first English translation of historian/author I. Rubio Male's book *LOS PIRATAS LAFFITE*, which is to be published as a tribute in honor of the Society's tenth anniversary, reported that he had been in communication with a professor in Yucatán who has offered to write a biographical profile on Rubio Male.

DISCUSSION ON TENTH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL TRAVEL

Members discussed briefly plans for a spring travel event possibly to Grande Isle and Grande Terre, LA, to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Laffite Society.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the general meeting was dismissed.

Submitted by,

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

\\dmk:2-10-04

MITNUTES
BOARD MEETING
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
February 17, 2004
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2010 Strand
GALVESTON, TX. 77550

BOARD PRESENT: President, Jeff Modzelewski; Second Vice-President, Mike Eubank; Third Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler; Historian, Jean L. Epperson; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: First Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Coordinator-of-Research, Pam Keyes; Archivist (office vacant)

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: Jean L. Epperson; R. Dale Olson

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Sybil Marler

CALL TO ORDER

The Board members gathered in the foyer of the Inn-on-the Strand, 2010 Strand, at 5:00 p.m.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- 1) President Jeff Modzelewski announced his decision not to run again for the office of President of the Society. Possible nominees for July, 2004 discussed.
- 2) Frequency of meetings – whether to hold monthly or quarterly meetings, or to dissolve the Society. Resolved with decision to remain with monthly time-table in order to preserve continuity of interest and social interaction.
- 3) How to solve on-going problem of lack of volunteers for official duties, special event arrangements, etc., in order to provide a fair sharing of responsibility
- 4) Laffite Society Archive. Mounting collection of documents requires cataloguing and storage. Advisory Board Member, Ex-Officio President, and co-owner of the Trolley Stop Building, R. Dale Olson, mentioned the possibility that the Society's meetings may have to be moved to another location on the site in order to free up present location for retail space. Decision to work on archive tabled until a permanent location for meetings is decided upon, which will call for assistance in moving, cataloguing, and storing documents.
- 5) Proposal to begin business meeting at 6:15 p.m., following refreshments at 6:00 p.m., with a time limit of approximately 25 minutes allowed for special presentations.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The Board meeting adjourned promptly at 6:00 p.m., to be followed by the general meeting this date.

Submitted by,

DOROTHY MCDONALD KARILANOVIC
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

\\dk:3/8/04

MINUTES
General Meeting
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
February 17, 2004
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2010 Strand
GALVESTON, TX 77550

BOARD PRESENT: Jeffrey Modzelewski, President; Second Vice-President, Mike Eubank; Third Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler, Historian, Jean L. Epperson, Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: First Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Coordinator-of-Research, Pam Keyes; Archivist (office vacant)

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: Jean L. Epperson; R. Dale Olson; Reginald Wilson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Ron and Beth Austin; Mike Baily; Sybil Marler; Don and B.J. Peak; Dave Pettus; Betty Wilson; Wil Zapalac

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

No corrections or additions were submitted for the electronically transmitted Minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Jerry Eubanks, presented a written report showing a beginning balance on 1/20/04 of \$2,358.84, and an ending balance of \$2,946.90. Also included in the Treasurer's report was a list of current memberships.

FOREIGN MEMBERSHIP DUES

Decision made to accept payment for foreign memberships in U.S. dollars only.

MEMBERSHIPS ON FILE

According to Mrs. Eubanks, the current number of paid memberships on file is for 60 individuals.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS FOR 2004-2006

President Jeffrey Modzelewski announced his decision not to run again for election to the office of President. Mike Eubank, News Group Coordinator, offered to post a call for nominations for the office of President over the Internet.

DONATIONS TO ARCHIVE

Member-at-Large, Mike Baily, donated to the Laffite Society archive photocopies of documents relating to Laffite history from the 1850-70s. He also distributed for members' interest a flyer announcing an annual historical and rare book sale to be held by the Brazoria County Historical Commission, to which members are invited

ARCHIVIST POSITION TEMPORARILY FILLED

Member-at-Large Davie Pettus, volunteered to take the position of Archivist *protempore* until elections in August of this year.

SPECIAL PRESENT BY DON MARLER

Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler, spoke on a work entitled *The Baratarians and the Battle of New Orleans with Biographical Sketches of the Veterans of the Battalion of Orleans 1814-1815*, by Jane Lucas de Grummond and Ronald R. Morazan, 1961, Louisiana State University. According to Mr. Marler, this book gives the “clearest, easiest account of battles presented,” the author citing court records of Louisiana giving details on the numbers of men in the Laffite establishment at Baratavia and ships with licenses, using referenced sources. The book also gives a good account of how Laffite used his ships and armaments.

MEMOIR OF THE ST. CHARLES HOTEL, NEW ORLEANS

Member-at-large and Protem Archivist Dave Pettus read a letter he had prepared entitled *An Opportunity Missed*, based on his memories of a stay in 1944 and 1945 at the St. Charles Hotel in New Orleans, where, unknown to him at the time, celebrated *bon vivant*, Laffite author Lyle Saxon, was a guest in residence. The stimulus for Mr. Pettus’ idea to write his memoir was President Jeff Modzelewski’s address, presented at the Laffite Society’s 2003 holiday party, on the subject of Lyle Saxon and his work, one of which is entitled *The St. Charles Hotel*.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Member-at-Large, Cindy Vallar, “the pirate lady,” will speak at the March, 2004 meeting. Advisory Board Member Dr. Reginald Wilson stated that he may give a slide presentation in the near future of photos made during his trips to the Bay Islands, off the coast of Honduras.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business the general meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

DOROTHY MCDONALD KARILANOVIC
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

\dk:3/8/04

File

MINUTES
General Meeting
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
Tuesday, March 16, 2004
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX. 77550

BOARD PRESENT: President, Jeff Modzelewski; Second Vice-President, Mike Eubank; Third Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Historian, Jean L. Epperson; Archivist (Protem), Dave Pettus; Press Director, Dave Roberts; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: First Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler; Coordinator-of-Research, Pam Keyes;

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS: Jean L. Epperson; R. Dale Olson; Robert C. Vogel; Reginald Wilson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Ron and Beth Austin; Sheldon Kindall; Don and B.J. Peak; Norman and Marguerite Sachnik; Betty Wilson; Wil Zapalac

GUESTS: Cindy and Tom Vallar

CALL TO ORDER

The President called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., welcoming speaker of the evening Cindy Vallar and her husband Tom Vallar, and also visiting Advisory Board Member Robert C. Vogel, Laffite author and researcher.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Speaker, Cindy Vallar, former librarian, historical novelist, columnist, and book reviewer from Keller, TX, presented reviews of a dozen books on the subjects of piracy in olden and modern times of interest to children, young adults, women, as well as to all enthusiasts of pirate history and adventure. Some titles reviewed were as follows: 1) *Violet and the Mean and Rotten Pirate* by Richard Hamilton 2) *Hawke*, by Ted Bell; 3) *Drake: for God, Queen, and Plunder*, by Wade D. Dudley; 4) *The Pirate Round*, by James L. Nelson; 5) *The Billy Ruffian*, by David Cordingly; 6) *Gentlemens' Blood*, by Barbara Hollan; 7) *The Pirate Hunter: the True Story of Captain Kidd*, by Richard Zacks; 8) *Under the Black Flag*, by David Cordingly; 9) *Dangerous Waters: Modern Piracy and Terror on the High Seas*, by John Burnett; 10) *Pirates Aboard! [40 cases of piracy today]*, by Klaus Hympendahl; 11) *Bloody Jack*, by L.A. Meyer; 12) *The Iron Rose*, by Marsha Canham.

MINUTES

No additions or corrections by members to Minutes of February 17 transmitted electronically on March 8, 2004. Correction of address by Secretary for Trolley Stop Building on Minutes of January and February from "2010 Strand" to "2021 Strand."

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jerry Eubank presented a written report of the Society's account showing disbursements and deposits (dues), with a beginning balance on February 17, 2004 of \$2,946.90, and an ending balance on March 16, 2004 of \$3,105.58.

EDITOR-OF-PUBLICATIONS INTERVIEWED

Protem Archivist David Pettus reported that he and Member-at-Large Mike Baily had served as judges at National History Day at Cedar Bayou School, Goosecreek District, Baytown, TX, in which a young student had written her paper on Jean Laffite.

Editor-of-Publications of The Laffite Society, Don C. Marler, was also interviewed at this event during which he commented on French Scholar Gene Marshall's English translation of *The Journal of Jean Laffite*.

PAM KEYES' NEW ARTICLE

Advisory Board Member Dr. Reginald Wilson mentioned he had received a copy of a new manuscript written by Coordinator-of-Research and Advisory Board Member Pam Keyes of Miami, OK, entitled *Jean Laffite, Catalyst of Jackson's Victory at New Orleans*.

TOPIC FOR APRIL MEETING

Advisory Board Member Reginald Wilson will present color slides of his and Mrs. Betty Wilson's trips to the Bay Islands off the coast of Honduras to accompany his article which appeared in the last issue of *The Laffite Society Chronicles*. He will also bring to the meeting some artifacts of their travels to this locale.

PRESIDENT ABSENT IN APRIL

President Jeff Modzelewski announced that he may have to attend an out of town seminar on April 20 and may not be able to preside at the Laffite Society meeting scheduled for that date.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The President extended thanks and appreciation to members who had provided drinks and refreshments for the evening's meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the general meeting of March 16 adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

\dk:4/11/04

5/12
Corrected 5/24/04

MINUTES
April 20, 2004
General Meeting
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
The Trolley Stop Building
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX. 77550

BOARD PRESENT: Second Vice-President, Mike Eubank;
Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry
Eubank; Archivist (Pro-tem), Dave Pettus; Press Director, Dave Roberts,
Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: President, Jeff Modzelewski; First Vice-President, Jim Nonus;
Third Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski; Historian, Jean L. Epperson; Editor-of-
Publications, Don C. Marler; Coordinator of Research, Pam Keyes

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: R. Dale Olson; Dr. Reginald Wilson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Mike Bailey; Dan Cote; Carroll Lewis, Jr., Dave Pettus;
Norman and Marguerite Sachnik; Charles Ward; Betty Wilson; Wil Zapalac

GUESTS: Korbin and O'Hara Creager (Olson grandchildren)

CALL TO ORDER

Second Vice-President Mike Eubank, presiding as President in the absence of
Jeff Modzelewski who was out of town, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION * * * * *

Advisory Board Member and long-time Laffite researcher Dr. Reginald
Wilson presented a talk and slide show on a Wilson family visit in 1969 to Roatan
and other locales in The Bay Islands, located off the coast of Honduras. The slide
presentation was intended as an accompaniment to Dr. Wilson's article, *A Visit to
The Bay Islands*, published in *The Laffite Society Chronicles*, Vol. X, No. 1, February,
2004. Dr. Wilson also brought along various archeological artifacts for members'
interest, and included anecdotes about Roatan Island resident-adventurer-treasurer
hunter Howard Jennings.

Author and Laffite Society Member-at-Large Carroll Lewis, Jr., who wrote
Treasures of Galveston Bay, was also present to speak about his two trips to Roatan
and The Bay Islands, and "the treasure he did NOT find."

During the talk, a book shown for members' interest was *The Treasure Hunter* by Robin Moore and Howard Jennings, Prentice Hall, 1974.

MINUTES

No corrections or additions to Minutes of March 16 e-mailed to members.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jerry Eubank reported a beginning balance in the Society's account on March 16, 2004 of \$3,105.58, and after one disbursement and a deposit, an ending balance on April 20, 2004 of \$3,012.17.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

At this meeting, members learned that Member-at-Large and regular attendee Ron Austin of Humble, TX had had major surgery recently, and, according to his wife, Beth, was recovering well.

Galveston Member-at-Large, Mrs. Louise Martin, who had received a hip replacement in early February is, according to the Secretary, doing well and making good progress toward being able to walk again. A get-well card for her was signed by all present.

OBITUARIES

The Secretary circulated two clippings for members to read who may not have seen them in *The Galveston County Daily News*: 1) Joel Kirkpatrick, former *News* reporter, Galveston raconteur and historical researcher on Charles Cronea (cabin boy on the ship of Capt. Jim Campbell, Jean Laffite's "right hand lieutenant") 2) Mrs. Jane M. Lasater, former Galveston educator and aunt of First Vice-President Laffite Society member Jim Nonus.

LAFFITE STATUE

A suggestion was offered to inquire at the City Manager's office regarding a bronze, desk-top size statue of Jean Laffite in an effort to learn of its provenance.

REFRESHMENTS

Thanks were extended to members who brought food and drink, and to LeCroy's Restaurant, across the atrium in The Trolley Stop Building, for providing bakery specialties for the evening's meeting, a courtesy gesture since the restaurant's opening.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the general meeting of April 20, 2004 was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

ADDENDUM TO MINUTES
SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENT

UPCOMING TALKS

The following talks are scheduled for May and June, 2004, as follows:

Tuesday, May 18, 2004

Title: *Guns of the Coast: World War II Gun Emplacements at Quintana*

By: Mile Bailey, Curator at the Brazoria County Historical Museum and Laffite Society Member-at-Large, and Co-Speaker, Judge Garvin Germany

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Title: *Long March to Freedom: the True Story Behind the Movie PROOF OF LIFE*, by Thomas Hargrove, Galveston resident, agricultural expert, adventurer and author, the story of his capture by Colombian drug smugglers and his 11-month ordeal in captivity. A taped video recording will be shown of ransom negotiations for Mr. Hargrove's eventual release.

Members' attendance is invited at these two special presentations. Voluntary assistance with refreshments on these occasions is, as always, welcome.

\dk:5-15-04

File

MINUTES
May 18, 2004
General Meeting
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
The Trolley Stop Building
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX 77550

BOARD PRESENT: Second Vice-President Mike Eubank; Recording/Corresp. Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Archivist (Pro-tem), Dave Pettus; Press Director, Dave Roberts; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: President, Jeff Modzelewski; First Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Third Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski; Historian, Jean L. Epperson; Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler; Coordinator-of-Research, Pam Keyes

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: R. Dale Olson; Dr. Reginald Wilson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Ron and Beth Austin; Mike Bailey; Dan Cote; Don and B.J. Peak; Betty Wilson; Wil Zapalac

GUEST SPEAKER: Judge Garvin Germany

CALL TO ORDER

Standing in for President Jeff Modzelewski who was absent this date, Second Vice-President Mike Eubank called the general meeting to order at 6:20 p.m., welcoming to the floor the speakers for the evening.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

The title of the evening's talk was *Guns of the Coast: World War II Gun Emplacements at Quintana*, presented by Member-at-Large Mike Bailey, Curator of the Brazoria County Historical Museum, and Judge Garvin Germany, a military history researcher. Both spoke from the perspective of the types of fortifications and guns used in World War II, and Judge Germany, on his search for information on gun mounts and military mobilization prior to and during the War primarily at Quintana, Tx. A slide presentation of gun mounts mentioned accompanied the talk.

MINUTES

Following the special presentation Second Vice-President Mike Eubank announced a short break for refreshments, to be followed by a brief business meeting. Minutes were approved with two corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jerry Eubank presented a written report of the Society's account showing a beginning balance on April 20, 2004 of \$3,012.17, and, there being no disbursements or deposits in the interim, an ending balance this date of \$3,012.17.

LAFFITE SOCIETY ARCHIVES

Archivist Pro-tem Dave Pettus, who has been donating his time at regular intervals, reported that he expects to complete an inventory of the Society's burgeoning archives sometime in the next few months.

DONATIONS TO ARCHIVE

Member-at-Large Mike Bailey presented copies of various documents for the Society's archive. As has been customary in the absence of a regular cataloging system and in order to have a record of items submitted, the Secretary entered into the Minutes a listing of the titles of the documents donated this date, as follows: 1) *Under Six Flags: the Story of Texas* by M.E.M. Davis 2) *A Pictorial History of Texas from the Earliest Visits of European Adventurers to A.D. 1879* by Rev. Homer S. Thrall, A.M. 3) *A Buccaneer Family in Spanish East Texas: a Biographical Sketch of Captain James and Mary Sabinal Campbell* by W.T. Block 4) *The Grandissimes: a Story of Creole life* by George W. Cable, published in *Scribner's Monthly*, Vol. XIX, January, 1880, #3 5) *Uncle Charlie Cronea: the Last of Laffite's Pirates* by W.T. Block, reprinted from *Frontier Times*, July, 1977 6) *The Legacy of Jean Laffite in Southwest Louisiana* by W.T. Block, reprinted from *True West*, December, 1979.

SPEAKER FOR JUNE 15 MEETING

Members were urged to attend the June meeting at which author Thomas Hargrove will speak on his book *Long March to Freedom: the True Story Behind the Movie PROOF OF LIFE*, which is a diary of his captivity in Colombia, S.A. and release after 11 months by narco-guerillas.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Advisory Board Member R. Dale Olson expressed appreciation on behalf of the Society to the Secretary and others for arranging the evening's special presentation and refreshments, and to the guest speakers for their well prepared and interesting historical account of World War II military preparations along the Texas coast.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, Second Vice-President Mike Eubank adjourned the meeting of May 18, 2004 at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

\dk:6-4-04

MINUTES
June 15, 2004
General Meeting
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
The Trolley Stop Building
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX. 77550

BOARD PRESENT: President, Jeffrey Modzelewski; First Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Second Vice-President, Mike Eubank; Third Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski; Recording/Corresp. Secretary, Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Archivist (Pro-tem), David S. Pettus; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: Historian, Jean L. Epperson; Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler; Coordinator-of-Research, Pam Keyes; Press Director, Dave Roberts

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER: R. Dale Olson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Mike Baily; Stephen Broadstone; Lou MacBeth; Louise Martin; B.J. and Don Peak; Norman Sachnik; Wil Zapalac

VISITORS: Linda Bonos; Robert Evans; Alice Harrington; Cindy Hillman; Sandy Loiseau-vonKuff; Frances McCasland; Louise Nichols; David G. Pyle; Bryant L. Simmons

GUEST SPEAKER: Thomas R. Hargrove

CALL TO ORDER

President Jeff Modzelewski called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m., with a welcome for members, guests and visitors.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Following a brief introduction by the Secretary, Galveston resident, former agricultural specialist, and author of three books, Thomas R. Hargroves presented a talk on his experiences during an 11-month period of captivity from September 23, 1994 to August 22, 1995, at the hands of South American narco-terrorists known as F.A.R.C. (the Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia). He accompanied his talk with a videotape showing pictures of him with masked captors during ransom negotiations, followed by the day of his release when he walked unannounced into his family's home in Cali, a free man; and a segment taped later when he appeared on T.V.'s *60 Minutes* in an interview with newsman Mike Wallace. Mr. Hargroves' experiences culminated in a book entitled *Long March to Freedom; Tom Hargrove's Own Story of His Kidnapping by Colombian Narco-Guerrillas*, published by 1st Books, 2001, which later inspired the Warner Bros. major motion picture, *Proof of Life*.

BUSINESS MEETING DEFERRED

Due to lack of time, no business meeting was held. Minutes and Treasurer's Report were on file.

SPECIAL DONATION

Member-at-Large Mike Baily presented for the Society's archive a large copy of a French map of Texas and the Gulf Coast dated 1775 and mounted on a masonite board.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The President extended his thanks and appreciation on behalf of the Society to speaker Thomas R. Hargroves and to the following persons for their contributions: Diane and Dale Olson – the use of a newly furnished meeting space, The Laffite Room; Dorothy Karilanovic – arrangements with speaker and press notices; Jim Nonus, for lending the use of his video player for the evening; R. Dale Olson – preparation of a meeting announcement mounted in the lobby of The Trolley Stop; LeCroy's Restaurant – their French pastry special, *beignets*; other refreshments and beverages provided by Diane Olson, Dorothy Karilanovic; Kathy Modzelewski; Louise Martin

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no business meeting held this date, the general meeting of June 15, 2004 adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m. following a sale and book signing by Mr. Hargroves.

Submitted by,

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

\dk:7/9/04

43

MINUTES
July 20, 2004
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
General Meeting
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX 77550

BOARD PRESENT: First Vice-President Jim Nonus; Second Vice-President Mike Eubank; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Historian, Jean L. Epperson; Archivist (Pro-tem), Dave Pettus; Press Director, Dave Roberts; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: President, Jeff Modzelewski; Third Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski; Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler; Coordinator-of-Research, Pam Keyes

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: Jean L. Epperson; R. Dale Olson; Dr. Reginald Wilson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Ron and Beth Austin; Mike Bailey; Stephen Broadstone; Sheldon Kindall; Don and B.J. Peak; Norman and Marguerite Sachnik; Betty Wilson; Wil Zapalac

VISITOR: Judge Garvin Germany

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Second Vice-President Mike Eubank, standing in for President Jeff Modzelewski who was absent this date.

NOMINATION OF NEW OFFICERS FOR 2004-2006

First Vice-President Jim Nonus presented a slate of nominees, all of whom were then voted into office by members in attendance, as follows: President: Mike Eubank; First VP, R. Dale Olson (Programs) with supporting committee: Diane Olson, Dorothy Karilanovic, Mike Bailey); Second VP: Mike Bailey (Memberships); Third VP, Jim Nonus (Hospitality and Events); Recording Secretary: Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic; Treasurer: Jerry Eubank; Archivist: David Pettus; Parliamentarian: Diane Olson; Coordinators-of-Research: Sheldon Kindall and Jean L. Epperson; Editor-of-Publications: Don C. Marler; Press Director: Dave Roberts; Historian: (office vacant)

CHANGE IN MEETING FORMAT

President Elect Mike Eubank proposed that meeting times be limited to 45 minutes unless more time is requested beforehand for speaker presentations, and that a short business meeting be held first, followed by the speaker for the evening. In addition the President Elect mentioned that future special events would be announced by e-mail.

MINUTES

No comments or corrections for MINUTES of June 15 which were transmitted to members with an e-mail address.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Jerry Eubank, presented a written report showing an ending balance in the Society's account of \$3,042.09.

DISCUSSION BY DR. REGINALD WILSON

Advisory Board Member Dr. Wilson read a letter from Miami, OK Advisory Board Member Pam Keyes referring to new genealogical information she had received on a New Orleans family of descendants of Rose Laffite, daughter of Pierre Laffite, said to have last seen her father at age 9.

Dr. Wilson also reported that William C. (Jack) Davis, Texas history author and Laffite researcher claims he has found a letter, dated Oct. 4, 1814, which he believes has an authentic signature of Jean Laffite, making it only the fourth example thought to be genuine.

Dr. Wilson reported he had also received a letter from a woman mentioning that she receives oil royalties from property associated with the Laffites.

REVISED TIME LINE

Advisory Board Member and newly elected Co-Coordinator of Research Jean L. Epperson donated for the Society's archive a July, 2004 revision of a *Tentative Chronology of John A. Laffite* [or John Matejka].

COPY OF 1845 MAP OF GALVESTON ISLAND

Copies of a map on 8 ½ by 11 inch paper, first printed in 1945 by Bangs and reprinted by the Galveston Chamber of Commerce in 1965, courtesy of Anne A. Brindley, were handed out to members. The map shows points of location for 1) former headquarters of Aury, Mina, Perry, and Laffite; also Mexican Customs House and Amasa Turner's home, as well as the First Presbyterian Church and the Customs House.

COIN AND LAFFITE STATUE PRESENTATION

Advisory Board Member and ex-officio Laffite Society President R. Dale Olson gave a presentation on his collection of Laffite commemorative coins, one set, Serial No. 6, examples of which were made of pewter, sterling silver, bronze, and gold. Dale also unveiled for an eager audience a cast bronze statue, issue No. 21 of 150, commissioned in 1976 for the Galveston Bicentennial Celebration. The statue, a figure of an artist's conception of Jean Laffite brandishing a sword over a "treasure chest", originally sold for \$1,000. The sculptor, Juan Dell, a woman, now lives in Santa Fe, NM.

Thanks and appreciation were extended by Mr. Olson to Press Director Dave Roberts for his special efforts in locating and helping to obtain the Laffite statue which has been housed in past years in the offices of the Galveston Chamber of Commerce.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Ex-Officio President R. Dale Olson extended appreciation on behalf of the members for on-going research efforts of Dr. Reginald Wilson, Jean L. Epperson, Pam Keyes, and others, and a personal welcome to incoming President Mike Eubank and to new and returning officers of the Society. Very special thanks were given to out-going President, Jeffrey Modzelewski for his exemplary scholarship as former Editor-of Publications, as an accomplished Spanish translator, and as President of the Society; and to ex-officio Third-

Vice-President, Kathy Modzelewski, for her many valuable contributions to the Society over the years while serving as President of the Society, as Second Vice-President-Membership Chair and Treasurer, and as Third Vice-President-Special Events Chair.

JOHN HOWELLS

Secretary Dorothy Karilanovic reported she had sent a letter of condolence on behalf of the Society to the family members of the late John Howells, long-time member and Laffite researcher of The Laffite Study Group and The Laffite Society, who passed away at the age of 75 on July 7, 2004. A memorial tribute for Mr. Howells will appear in an upcoming issue of *The Laffite Society Chronicles*.

BARTELEMY LA FON

Advisory Board Member Dr. Reginald Wilson said he had received from New Orleans Member-at-Large Cindy Nobles a copy of a sheet of paper showing the handwriting of architect-engineer Bartelemy La Fon, the alleged builder of Jean Laffite's fort house, the Maison Rouge, along with a three page time-line of La Fon's life. Dr. Wilson suggested that this information might serve as a guide for a future special presentation by some member who would be interested in preparing a talk.

UP-COMING EVENTS

R. Dale Olson reported he is doing research in preparation of a historical walking tour of the Strand in Galveston, which may be ready in the month of November. Possibly scheduled in the future, a re-visit special event trip to Liberty, Texas and the Sam Houston Research Center and Regional Library where the original document in French, *The Journal of Jean Laffite* is housed.

DONATIONS FOR REFRESHMENTS

President Elect Mike Eubank suggested that members contribute at each meeting date \$2.00 to cover the cost of food and beverage served before and during a break or at the end of each meeting.

Thanks were extended to Dave Roberts for publicity of this date's meeting in *The Galveston County Daily News*, and to those who had provided food and drink for the evening, especially to Tommy LeCroy for the beignet pastry tray, courtesy of The Bistro LeCroy.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the general meeting of July 20, 2004, was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

Vdk: 8/14/04

JNL

MINUTES
August 17, 2004
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
General Meeting
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX. 77550

BOARD PRESENT: President, Mike Eubank; Third Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Recording/Corresp. Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Co-Coordinator of Research, Sheldon Kindall; Press Director, Dave Roberts

BOARD ABSENT: First Vice-President, R. Dale Olson; Second Vice-President, Mike Bailey; Co-Coordinator of Research, Jean L. Epperson; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson; Editor of Publications, Don C. Marler; Archivist (office vacant); Historian, (office vacant)

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: Dr. Reginald Wilson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Ron and Beth Austin; Kathy Modzelewski; Betty Wilson

CALL TO ORDER

The President called the meeting to order at 6:22 p.m.

MINUTES

The Minutes were not read, but transmitted by e-mail. No corrections or additions were cited.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Jerry Eubank, submitted a written report showing, after disbursements of \$311.29, an ending balance in the Society's account of \$2,900.80.

IN MEMORY OF DAVE PETTUS

President Mike Eubank spoke briefly about the funeral held this date for Laffite Society Member and recently elected Archivist David Pettus, who passed away on August 10, 2004. The President and several other members attended the funeral at which the minister gave a eulogy citing Dave's many academic accomplishments including numerous published articles on 19th century history.

Secretary, Dorothy Karilanovic, read to members a letter of condolence she had prepared on behalf of the Society, to Dave's sister, Mrs. Virginia Whatley of Pearland, TX, a copy of which will be placed in the archive.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

President Mike Eubank announced that the Society had presented a first-time, two-year honorary membership to Diane Burkett of Knoxville, TN. Diane is a direct descendant of the brothers Laffite: 5th great-grand daughter of Pierre Laffite and 5th great-niece of Jean Laffite. A letter graciously accepting the honorary membership was received from Diane Burkett on August 8, 2004.

EXCAVATION RESUMED AT MAISON ROUGE SITE

Co-Coordinator of Research, Sheldon Kindall stated that excavation at 1417 Harborside Drive, down to about 12 feet, will begin in mid-September and will be

conducted by members of the Houston Archaeological Society. The target of the investigation is a water well dated about 1828. A section of ground, 2 meters by 2 meters bordering the property line on the east, near the well, will be opened. Sheldon stated that permission had been obtained from the property owner on the east side of the Maison Rouge lot, to dig across his property line.

THE LAFFITE SOCIETY CHRONICLES

Members present each received a copy of the latest issue of *The Laffite Society Chronicles, Vol. X, No. 2, October, 2004*. Each member signed a list to indicate receipt of a copy.

LAFFITE SOCIETY STATUE

President Mike Eubank and Press Director, Dave Roberts, reported that the Galveston City Manager's Office had authorized a request for return to the city offices of the bronze statue of Jean Laffite, by sculptor Juan Dell, originally commissioned for the Galveston Bicentennial celebration in 1976, and loaned to the Society recently for viewing at the July, 2004 meeting. An effort will be made to locate another copy of the statue to be placed permanently in the Society's keeping.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - REPEAT VIDEO SHOWING

Those present at this meeting were treated to a repeat viewing for benefit of new members of a video film first shown about 10 years ago entitled *The Mock Trial of Jean Laffite*. The film, sponsored by the Louisiana Center of Law, is an enactment of an historical trial acquitting Jean Laffite of piracy and smuggling charges. Some actors appearing in the film were students in the legal profession.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks and appreciation were extended to Third Vice-President and Hospitality Chairman Jim Nonus for providing refreshments for this meeting, and to First Vice-President R. Dale Olson for loan of a video player.

Members were reminded to contribute toward the refreshment fund.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the general meeting of August 17 adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

\dmk:9/9/04

MINUTES
September 21, 2004
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
General Meeting
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX. 77550

BOARD PRESENT: President, Mike Eubank; First Vice-President, R. Dale Olson; Second Vice-President, Mike Bailey; Third Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Recording/Corresp. Secretary, Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Co-Coordinator of Research, Jean L. Epperson; Co-Coordinator of Research, Sheldon Kindall; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson

BOARD ABSENT: Editor of Publications, Don C. Marler; Press Director, Dave Roberts; Historian (office vacant); Archivist (office vacant)

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: Jean L. Epperson; R. Dale Olson; Reginald Wilson

GUEST SPEAKER: Bill Doree, Maritime Historian

VISITOR: Susan Weeks

CALL TO ORDER

The President called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Minutes of the August 12 meeting were approved with one correction entered in the record.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jerry Eubank presented a written report of the Society's account showing an ending balance on Sept. 21, 2004 of \$2,814.04.

EXCAVATION AT MAISON ROUGE SITE

Co-Coordinator of Research Sheldon Kindall reported that a pit had been opened on the property east of the Maison Rouge site. Members were invited to the site on Saturdays and on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. until about 3:00 p.m.

CARD OF APPRECIATION

Mike Eubank stated that a card was received from Dave Pettus' sister, Mrs. Virginia Whatley, expressing her thanks for gestures of condolence in memory of her brother.

DONATION OF MAPS AND ARTICLE

Second Vice-President Mike Bailey presented copies of several maps of Galveston Island from Dave Pettus' collection covering a period of almost 200 years, which were donated to the Society by Mrs. Virginia Whatley in memory of Dave. Mike also donated to the Archive a copy of an article by Dave Pettus printed in the September, 2004 issue of *The Window Pane*, a bulletin of the Brazoria County Historical Museum. In his article, Dave expresses his great appreciation for the many oral history interviews he had been privileged to have through his association with the museum. A moving tribute in memory of Dave, written by staff, also appeared in the bulletin.

The President asked the Secretary to write a letter from the Society thanking Mrs. Whatley for the donation of maps.

DATA BASE SYSTEM

R. Dale Olson spoke briefly about a data base system called *ProQuest* he had discovered in a Los Angeles library which could be applied to an organization such as the Society for on-line research. Mike Bailey contributed to the discussion by offering names of several other web sites for research familiar to him in his work as curator at the Brazoria County Historical Museum.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Maritime Historian Bill Doree, making a return visit to speak, was introduced by Third Vice-President Jim Nonus. Mr. Doree read from two chapters of a book he is preparing on historical vessels and related information, soon to be published. He also made available for members to look at copies of an 1820 deck log from the *U.S. Enterprise*.

HOLIDAY PARTY

The two dates of December 12 and December 19 are being considered for the Society's holiday event. Third Vice-President, Hospitality Chairman Jim Nonus will be coordinating arrangements for the party.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks were extended to R. Dale Olson for arranging for Mr. Doree to speak; to Jim Nonus for providing refreshments from Bistro LeCroy, and to Mrs. Betty Wilson for her home-baked cookies.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the President adjourned the general meeting of September 21 at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

\dk

MINUTES
October 19, 2004
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
General Meeting
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX. 77550

BOARD PRESENT: President, Mike Eubank; Second Vice-President, Mike Bailey; Third Vice-President, Jim Nonus; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank

BOARD ABSENT: First Vice-President R. Dale Olson; Recording/Corresp. Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Editor-of-Publications, Don Marler; Co-Coordinators of Research, Sheldon Kindall and Jean L. Epperson; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson; Press Director, Dave Roberts; Historian (office vacant); Archivist (office vacant)

ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT: Dr. Reginald Wilson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Beth and Ron Austin; George Najarian; Marguerite and Norman Sachnik; Betty Wilson

CALL TO ORDER

President Mike Eubank called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

MINUTES

Present Mike Eubank acted as Recorder in the absence of the Secretary this date. Minutes of the September 21 meeting were approved as presented via e-mail, on a motion from Jim Nonus, seconded by Beth Austin.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jerry Eubank presented a written report of the Society's account, as follows: Beginning balance of \$2,814.04; disbursements, \$59.00; deposits, \$59.00; ending balance this date of \$2,814.04.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

The following is a summary of Second Vice-President Mike Bailey's special presentation as recorded by President Mike Eubank:

Mike Bailey gave an excellent, high-tech presentation on the ACADIA, a Civil War Blockade Runner. He used his PC with an attached projector and Powerpoint as aids in the presentation. Thus, he had excellent slides with great pictures highlighting his presentation.

Mike began with a history of announcements by presidents of the South and North of new laws. Jefferson Davis had announced a privateering policy on 4/17/1861 and on 4/19/1861 Lincoln ordered a blockade of all southern coastal ports by the Union navy in which there were 74 seaworthy ships.

Types of ships in this era were: SS-screw driven steamships; TS – turbine steam ships; MV – motor driven; PS – paddle wheel, side wheeler and single wheel. The paddle wheel provided more maneuverability. Blockade runners were specifically made for that job and most were side wheelers.

The ACADIA was a River Clyde-type steamship. The ship was built in Canada in 90 days. It was a coal burning steamship and flew the Canadian flag. Construction began on 5/10/1864 in Sorel, Quebec. It left Montreal on 7/14/1864 on its maiden voyage.

The ACADIA ran aground in San Luis Pass on 2/6/1865. It was later spotted by the USS VIRGINIA, a Spanish blockade runner itself, and, because of its speed, was used in blockades by the Union navy, and destroyed by gunfire. Most of the cargo was off-loaded earlier by shore persons.

A Rice University professor, Frank Hole, salvaged different items from the wreckage in the early 1970s. He wrote a report, THE ACADIA, a CIVIL WAR BLOCKADE RUNNER, in August, 1974, TECHICAL REPORT #1, DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, RICE UNIVERSITY.

Following his presentation, Mike handed out papers listing the catalogued sale items from the ACADIA and a short written report on the ACADIA [these for the Society's Archives]. He also passed around several items found in the salvage operation of the ACADIA that are from the Brazoria County Historical Museum.

THE SHIP JUPITER

After Mike's presentation, Advisory Board Member Dr. Reginald Wilson pointed out that one of Laffite's ships, the *Jupiter*, was a side-wheeler – a *bateau à vapeur* (steamship) - as cited in *THE JOURNAL OF JEAN LAFFITE*, [p. 113], translated by French scholar Gene Marshall.

BOOK SIGNINGS BY WILLIAM DAVIS

Dr. Wilson also reported that Advisory Board Member Pam Keyes had informed him that William "Jack" Davis would be signing copies of his new book on Laffite in New Orleans and in Houston, dates to be announced.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Third Vice-President and Hospitality Chairman Jim Nonus announced that the Christmas party is scheduled for Sunday, December 12, 2004. He requested that members have ready names of invitees at our November meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the general meeting of Oct. 19, 2004 was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY

ME:dk:11/11/04 (corrected)

MINUTES
November 16, 2004
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TX 77550

BOARD PRESENT: President Mike Eubank; First Vice-President, R. Dale Olson; Second Vice-President, Mike Bailey; Third Vice-President (Chair, Special Events), Jim Nonus; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy McD. Karilanovic; Treasurer, Jerry Eubank; Co-Coordinator, Research, Jean L. Epperson; Co-Coordinator, Research, Sheldon Kindall

BOARD ABSENT: Editor-of-Publications, Don C. Marler; Parliamentarian, Diane Olson; Press Director, Dave Roberts; Historian (office vacant); Archivist (office vacant)

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS: R. Dale Olson; Jean L. Epperson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Ron and Beth Austin; E. Lou MacBeth; Louise Martin

VISITOR: Edward J. Jamison; Suzanne Weeks

CALL TO ORDER

President Mike Eubank called the general meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

MINUTES

Minutes of the October 19 meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Jerry Eubank, presented a written report showing a balance this date in the Society's account of \$2,814.04.

MAISON ROUGE EXCAVATION

Co-Coordinator of Research Sheldon Kindall reported that he and members of the Houston Archaeological Society had dug down to 3 meters in depth on about one-third of the 2 x 2 meter area designated on the eastern edge of the property at 1417 Harborside Drive, the alleged site of Jean Laffite's house, the Maison Rouge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS

First Vice-President R. Dale Olson introduced newly signed member Ed J. Jamison and, in addition, Ms. Barbara Davis, new co-owner of Bistro LeCroy.

Dale announced that the room where Laffite Society meetings have been held since the move from the Eiband's building on Post Office St., and where the archives are kept, will be remodeled for retail space, and that a new area will be developed in which the society's records can be housed.

LOUISIANA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING

The date for the Louisiana Historical Association meeting in Lafayette, LA will be March 17-19, 2005. Session name: *Pirates of the Gulf*; Chair, R. Dale Olson, The Laffite Society, Galveston; Papers: 1) *The Silent Legacy of the Laffites' Private Lives* by Benjamin D. Maygarden, Earth Search, Inc., New Orleans, LA; 2) *Fantasy Archaeology: The Search for Laffite's Treasure* by Robert C. Vogel, Pathfinder CRM, LLC, Spring Grove, MN. Commentator for the session will be Wilbur E. Menary, Assistant Dean of Libraries for Special Collections, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.

HOLIDAY PARTY, TROLLEY STOP BLDG. 2021 STRAND

Third Vice-President and Chair of Special Events Jim Nonus reported that special invitations for the holiday party on Dec. 12 had been ordered by phone this date. According to Jerry Eubank, reservations will be held by personal check of \$25.00 per person; deadline for receipt, December 9. Persons desiring to renew their 2005 dues will also be able to do so, time permitting, at the party. Hours of the event will be from 6:30-9:00 p.m., in the Maceo Bakery (Cocktails) and Buccaneer Room (catered dinner).

Those desiring to add names to the invitation list should submit them by December 1 to President Mike Eubank, either by e-mail or phone.

SUGGESTED FIELD TRIP

Co-Coordinator of Research Jean L. Epperson, mentioned that members might want to consider making a special event trip to the Brazoria County Historical Museum where Second Vice-President of the Laffite Society Mike Bailey is Curator. Mike Bailey suggested that members might hold a monthly meeting during a visit.

LETTERS TO FRENCH EMBASSIES

The Secretary reported that at the request of Third Vice-President Jim Nonus three letters of invitation and information about the Laffite Society were prepared and mailed out on Laffite Society letterhead October 24, 2004. Copies of the letters were given this date to Jim Nonus and to President Mike Eubank, and also placed in the Society's archive. Official invitations may also be sent to the embassies, depending on response.

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

Thanks were extended to Jim Nonus, President Mike Eubank, and Treasurer, Jerry Eubank for tonight's refreshments and beverages.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the general meeting of Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2004 was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

ADDENDUM

UPCOMING TALKS: 1) FEBRUARY, Member-at-Large Don Peak, on his book *Fire Mission*. 2) MARCH or APRIL (to be determined), Member-at-Large Carroll Lewis, Jr., will present his arguments on Louis Jean Calvet's conclusions regarding the alleged *Journal of Jean Laffite*, included in excerpts from Calvet's book *Barataria: the Strange History of Jean Laffite*, published in *The Laffite Society Chronicles*, Oct., 2003.

Submitted by,

**Dorothy McDonald Karilanovic
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
THE LAFFITE SOCIETY**

\dk:12-11-04

File

DECEMBER 12, 2004

LAFFITE SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY

**Buccaneer Room and Maceo Bakery
THE TROLLEY STOP BUILDING
2021 Strand
GALVESTON, TEXAS**

(No meeting held)