

The Laffite Study Group

NEWSLETTER

Vol. I, no. 1
Fall, 1980

Robert C. Vogel
Editor

The Laffite Study Group

The Laffite Study Group was formed in 1975 for the purpose of uniting individuals who share an interest in Jean Laffite's role in American history, folklore and literature. Members receive the Life and Times of Jean Laffite, a collection of occasional papers published irregularly, and the quarterly Newsletter.

The Laffite Study Group is a non-profit, educational organization and depends entirely upon membership dues, subscriptions and donations to meet its expenses. Membership dues are: Regular \$6.00 (\$7.50 outside U.S.) per calendar year, Sustaining \$20.00, Life \$100.00; non-members, particularly institutions, can subscribe to the Newsletter for \$2.00 per year.

Questions concerning memberships and subscriptions should be addressed to: John L. Howells, Secretary-Treasurer, Laffite Study Group, 2570 Kevin Lane, Houston TX 77043.

From the Editors

Yes, this is the long awaited Newsletter of the Laffite Study Group. As a member of the LSG, this publication, like LTJL, belongs to you. Please share your opinions and suggestions with us so that we can better meet your needs. The editors would like to see the Newsletter used as a medium for disseminating your research and ideas; we are especially concerned with providing the avocational, non-professional researchers among us with an opportunity to publish their work.

The Newsletter will be published four times a year, in the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. Beginning with the next issue, Ms. Pamela G. Keyes will assume the duties of Newsletter Editor -- this should give the publication a professional quality that will impress our colleagues and friends.

The editors envision a Newsletter consisting of news of current events and publications, research notes, book reviews, short articles, letters and requests for information. Please let us know what you would like to see in your Newsletter. Ms. Keyes' address is: 320 K N.W., Miami OK 74354.

Executive Board

During September-October of this year, the charter members of the Laffite Study Group were asked to select a seven-member Executive Board. Five persons were nominated and duly appointed to the Board. They are:

Jane L. De Grummond, Department of History, Louisiana State University,
Baton Rouge LA 70803

Jack D. L. Holmes, 520 South 22nd Avenue, Birmingham AL 35205

John L. Howells, 2570 Kevin Lane, Houston TX 77043

Pamela G. Keyes, 320 I Northwest, Miami OK 74354

Robert C. Vogel, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota,
Minneapolis MN 55455

Two vacancies remain on the Executive Board. Study group members interested in being appointed to the Board (term expiring 1 January, 1982) should contact any one of the above.

Election of Officers

On 15 October, 1980, the Executive Board of the Laffite Study Group elected a President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer from a list of nominees provided by the charter membership. All terms will expire on 1 September, 1981, at which time a general election will be held.

Dr. Jack D. L. Holmes, Ph.D., O.I.C., was elected President. Knighted by King Juan Carlos of Spain, Sir Jack is widely recognized as one of the foremost scholars in the study of the colonial period in the Gulf Coast region. He is retired Professor of History at the University of Alabama and is currently Director of the Louisiana Collection Series of Books and Documents on Colonial Louisiana.

Dr. Jane Lucas De Grummond, Ph.D., Vice President, is Professor Emeritus of History at Louisiana State University. Author of numerous books and articles dealing with various aspects of Latin American history, her Baratarians and the Battle of New Orleans is well known to all Laffite aficionados, who eagerly await publication of her biography of Renato Beluche.

Mr. John L. Howells will continue as Secretary-Treasurer. A charter member of the LSG, John Howells epitomizes the avocational historian: past president of the Civil War Round Table in Houston, his interests range from collecting antique firearms to underwater archaeology. He is married to the former Miss Jean Lafitte of New Orleans and is employed by the Internal Revenue Service.

Editorial Appointments

The Executive Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Pamela G. Keyes to the position of Newsletter Editor, beginning with the Winter, 1981, issue. A professional journalist, employed as an editor, feature writer and photographer for the Miami (Oklahoma) News-Record, the 24 year-old Ms. Keyes began researching Jean Laffite six years ago.

Mr. Robert C. Vogel, Managing Editor of the Life and Times of Jean Laffite since its inception, will continue in that capacity. A consultant in the field of cultural resource management, he is a graduate student in Geography at the University of Minnesota.

Prospective Editorial Assistants are encouraged to contact either Ms.

Keyes or Mr. Vogel.

Call for Papers: LTJL No. 6

The sixth installment of the Life and Times of Jean Laffite, a special issue devoted to the Laffite Journals controversy, is now being assembled. We are looking for research papers, documents, letters, notes and commentary. Deadline for submission of material is 1 January, 1981.

LTJL Back Issues, Reprints

Individual copies of available back issues and reprints may be ordered at prices indicated from: Robert C. Vogel, Department of Geography, 414 Social Sciences Building, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN 55455. Postage and handling charges are \$.60 for first and \$.35 for each additional copy.

Life and Times of Jean Laffite

Number	Date	Cost
1	Jan. 1976	\$2.00
2	July 1976	OOP
3	Dec. 1977	\$5.00*
4	Dec. 1978	\$3.00*
5	May 1980	\$3.00*

LTJL Reprints

1	March 1979	\$4.00
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Issues marked with an asterisk are in very short supply. LTJL No. 2 (July 1976) is out of print. LTJL Reprints are also in very short supply, although a second printing is planned for February, 1981. Xerox reproductions of all issues are available at \$2.00 per copy, plus \$.40 postage and handling. After 1 January, 1981, prices for non-members will increase by \$1.00 per copy on all publications. Orders from outside the U.S. add \$1.20 postage and handling for first and \$.70 for each additional copy.

Make checks payable to the Laffite Study Group.

Request for Information

Mr. Gerard Sellers, Director of the Islands in the Marsh project, a study of Louisiana's Chenier culture sponsored by the Zigler Museum at McNeese University, is attempting to document Jean Laffite's presence in southwestern Louisiana between 1812 and 1820. Sellers is searching for bibliographic references, reliable narrative histories of the region, folklore and oral history material. The information will be used in an interpretive exhibit, travelling between ten Louisiana locations from January through May, 1981. Mr. Sellers' address is: P. O. Box 5394, Lake Charles, Louisiana 70606.

Ms. Pamela G. Keyes, 320 I N.W., Miami, Oklahoma 74354, is interested in archaeological studies in the Barataria Bay region. She is especially interested in the Temple site and other locations within the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park.

Letters

Dear Mr. Vogel:

While in the Texas Room of the Houston Public Library, I found your January, 1976, issue of the Life and Times of Jean Laffite. I cannot express the elation I felt. For the past two years I have been reading everything I can find about Jean Laffite. He is an obsession with me! I wrote my freshman research paper [at the University of Houston] on him and four short stories. Please let me know if there is ANYTHING I can do for your group.

Brenda R. Young
Houston, Texas

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Dear Mr. Vogel:

Several monthes ago I tried to get some xerox copies of part of the Laffite Journal MS through the Sam Houston Regional Library in Liberty, Texas. The librarian there responded by saying that copying [of these materials] was not permitted. That was fine by me until I heard of a Texan [who] had managed to get all sorts of copies out of the place . . . Obviously, it requires a certain amount of "pull" to get anything out of that library.

Pamela G. Keyes
Miami, Oklahoma

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Dear Mr. Vogel:

To me, the Laffite Journal is a crude forgery that would not even fool a ten year-old with glaucoma.

Charles Hamilton
New York City

Newsletter Deadlines

Please note the upcoming deadlines for submission of material for the next three issues of the Newsletter.

Issue	Deadline
Winter, 1981	28 November, 1980
Spring, 1981	27 February, 1981
Summer, 1981	29 May, 1981

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