

THE

HISTORIAN

www.hancockcountyhistoricalsociety.com

OF HANCOCK COUNTY

Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi

July 2016

COMING EVENTS AT LOBRANO HOUSE

The monthly luncheon meeting will be held on Thursday, July 21, 2016, at noon at the Kate Lobrano House. Guest speaker for the program will be Charles Gray, Executive Director of the Hancock County Historical Society. **Reservations are required** and may be made by calling 467-4090. **Respectfully we must request that you please call by noon on Wednesday, July 20, 2016,** to make your reservation, to help us plan seating which is limited to forty-eight people, and to apprise us of the number for whom to prepare. The price of lunch is \$12.00.

CEMETERY TOUR

Even though October is a few months away, it's time to begin making plans for the Hancock County Historical Society's 23rd Annual Cemetery Tour. It will be held on Halloween night, Monday, **October 31, 2016**, at Cedar Rest Cemetery on Second Street. We will need members to volunteer to prepare the cemetery for the tour (mark the path, etc.), to portray citizens buried there, to act as guides, and to serve at the Lobrano House. To volunteer, please call the Society at 467-4090.



Holstein-Friesian dairy cattle originated in the provinces of North Holland and Friesland in the Netherlands and in Schleswig-Holstein in Northern Germany. They are usually referred to as Holsteins in North America and Friesians in Europe. In the United States Holsteins outnumber all other dairy breeds and produce nine-tenths of the milk.

The Dairy and Cattle Industries in Hancock County in the Twentieth Century

By
Eddie Coleman

Prior to the beginning of the twentieth century most rural people—and even some townspeople—kept a cow for milk and other dairy needs. However, the Great Depression of the 1930's presented the opportunity for farmers to support them-

selves and their families with what their farms produced, including milk. With this prospect, the dairy business began in Hancock County with four dairy farmers and increased to 177 at the peak of the industry in the latter part of the century. The beef industry followed by mid century.

Most of the dairies in Hancock County were concentrated in the northern and central sections. The first local men to begin milking cows for profit

were Henry Hariel, Plummer Shaw, Harrison Hariel, Joseph Shaw, Sr., and their related fami-

THE
HISTORIAN
 OF HANCOCK COUNTY

Eddie Coleman, Editor
 Scott Bagley, Publisher

Published monthly by the
**HANCOCK COUNTY
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Charles Gray, Executive Director
- Marco Giardino, President
- Jim Thriffiley, First Vice President
- Jackie Allain, Second Vice President
- Lana Noonan, Secretary
- Georgie Morton, Treasurer
- Scott Bagley, Publicity
- John Gibson, Historian
- Ames Kergosien, Member at Large

MAILING ADDRESS:

P. O. Box 3356
 Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi 39521

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

108 Cue Street

Telephone/Fax [228] 467-4090

Email address:

[HancockCountyHis@bellsouth.net](mailto:hancockcountyhis@bellsouth.net)

Website:

www.hancockcountyhistoricalsociety.com
 Marianne Plum, Webmaster

**LOBRANO HOUSE
 HOURS**

MONDAY — FRIDAY
 10:00AM — 3:00PM
 Closed: 12:00—1:00 (lunch)

MISSION STATEMENT

“TO PRESERVE THE GENERAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF HANCOCK COUNTY AND TO PRESERVE THE KATE LOBRANO HOUSE AND COLLECTIONS THEREIN; TO RESEARCH AND INTERPRET LIFE IN HANCOCK COUNTY; AND TO ENCOURAGE AN APPRECIATION OF AND INTEREST IN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION.”

lies. Lemiel (Slim) Harriel was the first milk hauler. Using a Model A Ford pick-up, he hauled milk to the Crosby Creamery in Picayune twice daily.

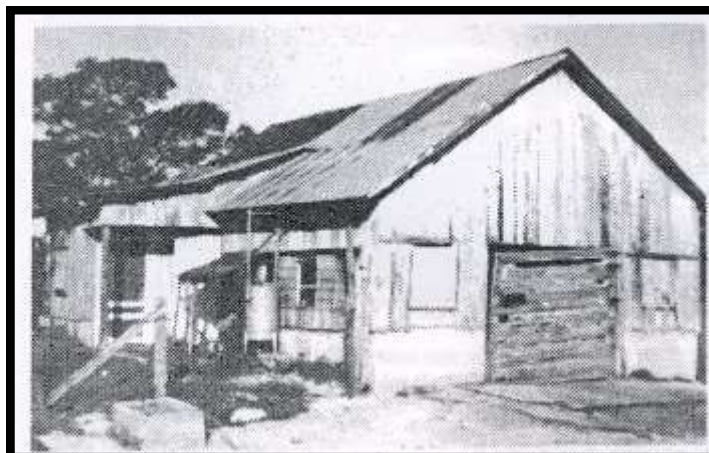
One of these early dairy-men remembers milking approximately two gallons or sixteen pounds per milking with most cows being milked twice daily. Another recalls carrying five to ten gallon cans of milk over an open field, across a creek, and through patches of woods to the road where the pick-up point was located. Moreover, the weight of the full cans and lifting them onto elevated platforms placed on the road-side made handling them a hard job. To help with identification, the cans and lids were painted with producer ID numbers because it was important to know from which farm each milk container had come in case any problems arose concerning the milk.

During this time cows were hand milked, and milk fresh from the cow has a heat of about ninety-four degrees. With no electricity it was necessary to cool the milk with spring or well

water to prevent spoiling, the cooling water being changed many times during the process. The first mechanical cooling apparatus was introduced into Hancock County by Henry Hariel. It worked on the same principle as a car radiator with cool well water being pumped through its coils.

The closest milk plant was the Crosby Creamery in neighboring Picayune. It was most helpful to farmers because Mr. Crosby bought Jersey cows and put them on the farms of dairy men who repaid him out of their monthly milk checks. Subsequently, dairies began to spring up all over the Crane Creek, Sellers, Leetown, and Ne-caise Crossing communities.

By 1942 Hancock County had 166 dairies within its boundaries. When electricity came into the rural areas, dairy farming changed rapidly. Namely, the Mississippi Department of Health demanded better barns and surface coolers which replaced the ice bank can coolers. In addition, milk was delivered to the plant every second day, and a cooperative creamery for



Dairy barn in Hancock County, built in the early 1930s



These cans of fresh milk are ready to be loaded onto the truck and sent to the creamery. Notice the number 193, denoting the dairy from which the milk came, on the can at the right.

(This 1945 photo comes from the *Sea Coast Echo*, 05/29/1977.)

Bay St. Louis-Hancock County was organized. By 1944 Hancock County dairy farmers set a record in raw milk production. Dairying grew rapidly, and raw milk production reached a record of 2,860,000 pounds. Seventy-nine dairymen purchased stock in the Co-Op Creamery, and by June of 1945 Farmer's

Co-Op Creamery was selling pasteurized milk in Bay St. Louis and sending four thousand quarts per day to the Seabee Base in nearby Gulfport. However, by November 29, 1946, the Farmers Co-Op Creamery had closed because it could not meet obligations. Losses in the first



This refrigerated milk truck transports milk directly from the cow to the creamery.

year's operation amounted to \$29,000.

By 1947 dairying began to dwindle, and in 1950 because of increasing technicalities, most older producers got out of the business. Pastures started developing over the county and better dairymen kept cows under fence.

Nonetheless, some dairy farmers persisted, and in 1961 Louis Breaux, who later served as the president of the Hancock County Livestock Association, built the first milking parlor barn and pipeline milking system in the county. In fact it was among the first approved by the Mississippi Department of Health. A major change of 1961 was conversion from the ten gallon milk can to bulk tanks. This process took milk from the cow through stainless steel lines directly to tank, untouched by hand and unexposed to elements. Within twenty minutes after milking, the milk was cooled to thirty-seven degrees.

Nevertheless, weakened by financial problems and discouraged by government regulations, the U.S. dairy farmer rapidly buckled under, and by 1977 there were only fourteen dairies in Hancock County.

With dairy farming on the decline, beef farming began to rise in Hancock County, and by mid century some substantial herds began to develop. One of these was owned by James L. Crump, who converted his cut-over land from raising rice to raising beef cattle. He began in the early 1950's with a herd of thirty-two head of 3/4 Herford and 1/4 Brahman cattle.

In addition there were also several registered herds of Aberdeen Angus, one of the finest owned by E. M. Brignac. About 1955 Brignac purchased 525 acres of land on Poplarville Highway (Hwy. 43), north of Kiln. He began with eight registered Angus heifers and twelve registered cows from Marydale Farm in St. Francisville, Louisiana. A short time later in partnership with Hoyde Cobb, owner of Marydale Farm, he bought twelve cows from a farm in Indiana. Brignac also acquired half-interest in "Marydale Anokamere 26th" as sire for his farm.

In a related vein of thought, in the late 1950's Hancock County played a vital role in helping alleviate poverty in Puerto Rico, by selling breed cattle to this United States territory. Although breed cattle from all sections of the southern US were imported by this Caribbean island, the cattle shipped from Hancock County acclimated

more easily to the area and bred better than those from any other area of the US.

Cattle breeding and dairying vied for second and third place in Hancock County's economy. By 1958 cattle provided an income of \$300,000 to the county with its herds of native cattle bred to Brahma bulls on cutover lands constantly improving in quality. With no winter worries, adequate rainfall, and abundant grass for grazing, Hancock County was practically an untouched cattle kingdom.

Each industry contributed to the growth of the economy in Hancock County. Dairy farming made Hancock County the largest milk-producing county on the Mississippi Gulf Coast with some of the finest Jersey herds in the entire state in the mid twentieth century. Not only did the beef industry provide food for the state and the southeastern part of the United States, but it also helped develop Puerto Rico

into a viable meat producer to help sustain its fledgling economy.

SOURCES:

"Dairy Industry Developed during Depression Days," *Heritage Edition-Sea Coast Echo*. 29 May 1977.
 "Holstein-Friesian," *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 1 July 2016 <www.britannica.com>.
 Scharff, Robert G. *Louisiana's Loss, Mississippi's Gain*. Lawrenceville, VA: Brunswick Publishing Corp., 1999.

COMMON BREEDS

DAIRY	BEEF
Ayrshire	Angus/
Brown Swiss	Aberdeen Angus
Guernsey	Hereford
Holstein-Friesian	Charolais
Jersey	Brahman
Milking short-horn	Santa Gertrudis



Hereford beef cattle originated in Herefordshire, England, and were first introduced into the United States by Henry Clay. The Polled Hereford (hornless) strain was developed in the U.S. around the turn of the 19th into the 20th century. Regardless of strain all Herefords are popular throughout the world as beef cattle.

NEW MEMBERS

Brenda "Curet" Cuevas
Bay St. Louis, MS

Sharon Deagano and
 James Randolph
Diamondhead, MS

A.E. and N.E. Hodges
Slidell, LA

Catherine B. Holland
Walker, LA

Leroy Necaise
Mandeville, LA

Competitive Pricing

One-of-a-Kind Pieces



Antique & Vintage Furniture

Estate Liquidation Services

Blue Rose Estate Sales

Go Green! Invest in timeless treasures of the past

442 Main St. Bay Saint Louis, MS 39520

BlueRoseEstateSales@gmail.com

BlueRoseEstateSales.com



Jul Lee Pursley-Dedeaux

Proprietor

(228) 231-1396

Estate Liquidation-Showroom-Appraiser

China

Art

Silver

Lamps & Lighting



Figurines

Fine Jewelry

Bronzes & Statuary

Collectibles

Coins

Vintage & Art Glass

Clocks



The Forever Saints Fan Club

By L.L. Lee

This new book by Ms. Lee is an inspirational tribute to four devoted Saints fans, to the team they loved, and to Saints fans everywhere.

Available at Bay Books, Amazon.com, Kindle, and the Historical Society

Contact Lee3731@bellsouth.net or Amazon.com/author/lllee

Ford Realty Inc.

Residential, Timberland, Ranches, Commercial

1004 Memorial Blvd.

P.O. Box 418

Picayune, MS 39466

800.354.FORD(3673)

Ofc. 601.798.6202

Fax 601.799.0202



CALL MARTHA

cell 601-590-2988

home 601-798-0082

martyford@bellsouth.net



Martha Ford
Broker, GRI, SFR

www.fordrty.com

JOHN "CORKY" HADDEN

Financial Advisor

RAYMOND JAMES®

T 228.466.9888 837A Highway 90

T 888.465.9968 Bay Saint Louis, MS 39520

F 228.466.9978 corky.hadden@raymondjames.com

<http://www.RaymondJames.com>

Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC

LOCAL COLOR



PAINTING & PRESSURE CLEANING

Dan Bader

228.466.5165

baybeau@live.com

528 State Street

Bay St. Louis MS 39520

BSL

"A Place Apart"

Robert and Samantha Mc Raney
and Family

Baria-Jones

Making Things Right

David W. Baria

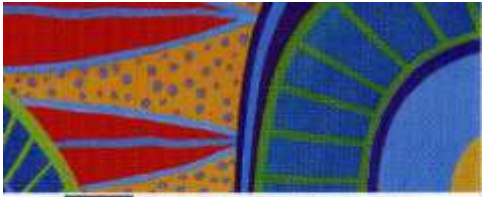
Attorney

544 Main Street, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520

T: (228) 270-0001 | F: (601) 948-0306

dbaria@barialaw.com

BariaLaw.com



MANIERI
REAL ESTATE, LLC

Joey G. Manieri ® Broker

Sales

Property Management
Vacation Rentals
Residential Rentals

501 Main Street Suite #3

Bay St. Louis, MS. 39520

228-466-4793 (Office)

228-216-5750 (Cell)

228-466-4794 (Fax)

manierij@bellsouth.net

www.manierirealestates.com



Steve B. Treutel

**Vice President
Senior Financial Advisor**

Mississippi Gulf Coast
(228) 385-6307

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management makes available products and services offered by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith incorporated, a registered broker-dealer and member SIPC, and other subsidiaries of Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved.

AD-06-12-0048

ARSOT2V1-10-11

Code 453007PM-0612

Todd N. Thriffiley
Attorney at Law

Phone: (228) 467-2400

**Court Appointed Special Advocates
CASA of Hancock County**

**Volunteers
Needed**

I am for the child™

**... Advocating for the
abused and neglected**

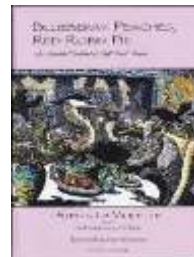
children in Hancock County ...

a community problem. a community solution.

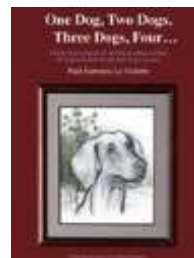
228.344.0419

www.casahancockcounty.org

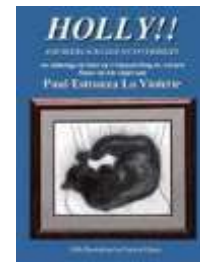
**READ! ESCAPE! ENJOY!
SUPPORT YOUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



\$25.00



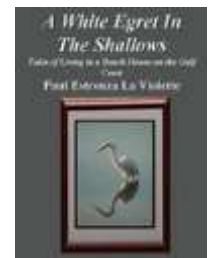
\$20.00



\$20.00



\$20.00





\$20.00

**BOOKS BY
PAUL LAVIOLETTE AVAIL-
ABLE AT THE HANCOCK
COUNTY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

SUE ASHMAN
 ABR, CRS, GRI, SRS
 BROKER

418 Highway 90
 Waveland, MS 39576

Office: (228) 467-5454 Cell: (228) 216-7864
 Fax: (228) 466-4561 Email: sueashman@aol.com
 www.Ashman-Mollere.com



Bay Cottages
 Historic Bay St. Louis Ms.
 Vacation Rental

305 Main
 228-466-4793

www.vrbo.com (ID #313124 & 400259)

DOORS OF BAY SAINT LOUIS



JANICE HALL GALLERY 126 MAIN STREET BAY SAINT LOUIS, MS 228.342.7020

BOOKS FOR SALE AT LOBRANO HOUSE



*Bay St. Louis
1st 300 Yrs.*
\$15.00



*Early Hancock
County*
\$30.00



*Eyes of an
Eagle*
\$50.00



*Forever Saints
Fan Club*
\$9.95



*Livestock
Brands &
Marks*
\$70.00



*Requiem for
the Lily*
\$20.00



*Scrapbook of Treasured
Memories*
\$20.00



*West Side
Stories*
\$28.00

PLEASE ADD \$5.00 SHIPPING FOR THE FIRST BOOK (\$2.00 EACH ADDITIONAL BOOK) ON MAIL ORDERS.

Bay St Louis:
412 Hwy 90
228-466-4498

Biloxi:
2505 Pass Rd
228-385-1177

Diamondhead:
5400 Indian Hill
228-467-2272



SOUTHGROUP
 INSURANCE SERVICES
 GULF COAST

- We offer Personal, Business, Life and Health Insurance
- We help our clients save money and get more value.
- We are Trusted Choice and have been awarded the Best Practices Designation.

For more information, please visit our website:
www.southgroupgulfcoast.com
 central fax: 888-415-8922



Kristen E. Threlkoff, CRN
 President
 SouthGroup Insurance
 -Gulf Coast

HANCOCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 3356
BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39521

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

U. S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 87
BAY ST. LOUIS, MS

HANCOCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 3356
BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI 39521

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE AND ZIP _____]

PHONE (____) _____

Email address _____

ANNUAL DUES—HOUSEHOLD—\$30____— DONATION \$ _____