



HISTORICAL SOCIETY
EST. 1966

Dear Pass Christian Historical Society Members,

I want to thank everyone for making 2024 an amazing year for the Society.

I want to thank all "Volunteers" who contribute their time and energy for the good of the "Historical Society." We are so blessed to have wonderful "docent's" such as Fabian Wambsgam, Doug and Laura Welch, Jena Shepherd, Bruce Stinson and Jesse Robinson. We are equally blessed with a wonderful Luncheon crew consisting of Don Demetz, Sally Demetz, Carol Rafferty, Char Zimmerman, Mark Oehmke, Bob Cutting, Babs Robie and many others who always chip in to assist.

At the Mississippi Historical Society Annual Meeting in March 2025, Your historical society was awarded the Local Historical Society of the Year Award and Catherine Myers received an Award of Merit for her book "The Magic of the Historic Structure".

The Tour of Homes for 2025 will be on Sunday May 4th. We need your support.

Please come and enjoy the Society building. Please contact me with any questions or concerns. Rory Robin Rafferty Jr. President 228-547-4873 rory39571@gmail.com.

Very Respectfully,

Robin Rafferty



Pass Christian Historical Society in the snow 2025!

We hope you will support the PC Historical Society by becoming a member or renewing your memberships.
Please see additional information on our Membership page at www.passhistory.org.

**Open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 10 AM-12 N
Thursday and Friday 10 AM-12 N and 1 PM-3 PM.**

If you are missing your newsletter email, please check your spam folder and click "Not Spam".

Spring 2025 PCHS Newsletter

www.passhistory.org

facebook.com/passhistory

Pass Christian Historical Society

TOUR OF HOMES

Sunday, May 4, 2025 - 2pm-5pm



127 Seal Avenue



513 East Scenic Drive



765 East Scenic Drive



925 East Scenic Drive



The Pass Christian Historical Society is excited to announce the 2025 Tour of Homes returns on Sunday, May 4th. Homes will be open from 2-5 pm.

On this, the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, the Society

invites you to come enjoy an afternoon in Pass Christian, learning about the history of our area and the remarkable recovery of our city and coast over the past two decades.

This year's Tour features four unique Pass Christian homes, including a lovely cottage gem on historic Seal Avenue and three beautiful Scenic Drive homes spanning a century of construction.

This year's featured homes are:

127 Seal Avenue, c. 1895, home of Louana and Ted Frois. The home was featured in Southern Living magazine in 2020 as a perfect example of the "casual elegance of the Mississippi Gulf Coast."

513 East Scenic Drive, c. 1880-1910. Home of Ashley and Chris Bass. Few beachfront homes survived Hurricane Katrina west of this local treasure, which is now the only remaining example of a late nineteenth-century Swiss Chalet-style bungalow on the Coast.

765 East Scenic Drive, 1972 and 2008. Home of Carroll and Dale Mathews. The Mathews transformed this originally Georgian-style home into an informal, airy, coastal classic after Hurricane Katrina. Guests will enjoy the Society's traditional Tour Tea on the lovely porches here.

925 East Scenic Drive, c. 1978. Home of Cindy Walker and Dave Dennis. We welcome this lovely home, which offers sweeping views of the Mississippi Sound from nearly every angle to the Tour for the first time.

Member Benefits

Please note that certain 2025 Society membership levels qualify for complimentary tickets to the Tour.

Patron and Sponsor Benefits

Becoming a Patron or Sponsor of the Tour of Homes is a wonderful way to enjoy the Tour while supporting the work of the Pass Christian Historical Society.

For additional information, including Ticket Information, please visit our website at [Pass History.org](http://PassHistory.org).

PCHS Calendar of Events 2025

Unless otherwise noted:

General Membership Meetings are on the 2nd Monday at 7P October and November. There is also a Holiday gathering the first Monday in December for the December Membership meeting. Special General Membership meetings may be scheduled during the year.

Monthly Luncheons are on the 4th Monday of the month at 12N. **Please note that reservations are required for the luncheons.**

Additional information regarding reservations follows the calendar entries.

Monday, April 28, 2025 12N Luncheon with Speaker

T. J. Pruitt with Mississippi Power will speak on "100 Years of Mississippi Power"

Sunday, May 4, 2025 2P - 5P Tour of Homes

There will be 4 houses on tour this year. This year's featured homes are: 127 Seal Avenue, c. 1895; 513 East Scenic Drive; c. 1880-1910, 765 East Scenic Drive, 1972 and 2008; 925 East Scenic Drive, c. 1978. Guests will enjoy the Society's traditional Tour Tea on the lovely porches at 765 East Scenic Drive.

Monday, May 19, 2025 12N Luncheon with Speaker

A Celebration honoring our PCHS!

Local Historical Society of the Year Award

Catherine Myers Book Award

-Marion Barnwell will speak on "All the Things We Didn't Say" - Mississippi history through the eyes of 2 generations of women.

Monday, June 23, 2025 12N Luncheon with Speaker

Richard Voorhies will speak on "Chennault: A Rebel in China"

Monday, July 28, 2025 12N Luncheon with Speaker

Speaker TBD

Monday, August 25, 2025 12N Luncheon with Speaker

Katrina Stories - A special forum to share some personal stories from our city.

Monday, September 22, 2025 12N Luncheon with Speaker

Speaker TBD

Monday, October 13, 2025 7P Membership Meeting

Trustee Nominating Committee presents candidates to Membership.

Speaker TBD

Monday, October 27, 2025 12N Luncheon with Speaker

Speaker TBD

Monday, November 10, 2025 7P Membership Meeting

Election of three new Trustees.

Speaker TBD

Monday, December 1, 2025 6P Holiday Membership Party

Holiday Membership Cocktail Party 1st Monday in December 6P - 8:30P Location TBD

Friday, December 5, 2025 5P Christmas in the Pass

Christmas in the Pass Parade Viewing. Come join the fun at the Historical Society!! BYOB and a snack to share!! No Reservations Needed

Monday, January 26, 2026 12N Luncheon with Speaker

Speaker TBD

Please Note the following regarding luncheons.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION by Friday 5 PM prior to Monday luncheon!

\$15.00 Members/17.00 Non-members.

Call 228-452-7254 or Email: reservations@passhistory.org.

Please cancel by Sunday so PCHS does not incur the cost of an unused lunch.

Sorry BUT, NO Walk-Ins, NO Observers and NO Standing Reservations. Seating is limited to 50.

Billy Bourdin Memorial Library

Visitors are always welcome to peruse our collection of books and artifacts in the Billy Bourdin Memorial Library during our open hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 10 AM-12 N; Thursday and Friday 10 AM-12 N and 1 PM-3 PM.

We are on the
web!

www.passhistory.org

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES GALORE!!
DOCENTS, DIGITIZATION, NEWSPAPER
CLIPPING!!
COME JOIN THE FUN!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE
CONTACT US!!
228-452-7254
OR EMAIL:
INFO@PASSHISTORY.ORG

The Pass Christian Historical Society would like to
recognize these new memberships for 2025.

Thank you for joining!!!

Chris and Ashley Bass

Beth Brock

Colleen Buchanan

Jane Lang Byrne

Vickie Coles

Lyda and Pat Denney /

Sievers

Mary G Dick

Karen T Dixon

James Keating

Carol Lindsay

Kathryn MacDowell

Janet McQueen

Mitchell Myers

Carol Peters

Laura and Tom Pickich

Jena Smith

Mary Youngblood

It is time to renew your Membership for 2025!!

You can join or renew at our web site

at passhistory.org.

Hurricane Katrina Commemoration

As we all know, 2025 is the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. This was certainly an historic event for our city and for our nation. The Historical Society would like to remember and commemorate this event in a couple ways.

First, at our August luncheon we would like to hear some Katrina stories from those who stayed in town for the storm. If you or someone you know has a compelling "up close and personal" story and you do not mind sharing with our members, please reach out to us at info@passhistory.org. Of course, time is limited at our luncheon so our current thinking is to have four or five speakers talk for ten minutes each and then take questions and comments.

Second, we would like to create a repository for everyone's Katrina story so that our descendants, future generations of Pass residents, and visitors can understand the storm through a collection of individual written stories. We think of Katrina as having three phases:

Landfall with residents bravely coping with one of the most destructive storms ever to hit the continental United States.

Recovery, when the immediate days and months after landfall saw citizens sorting through debris fields for treasured items, cleaning up flooded homes and businesses, finding a place to live either in town or out of town, eating in mobile kitchens set up by generous volunteer organizations, dealing with the trauma and shock of vast destruction, submitting insurance claims, and so much more.

Rebuilding, as we come back house by house, business by business, even now 20 years later.

This is history that we lived through and made, and in fact continue to make. We should not let our stories go untold and unrecorded. Some may have already committed their Katrina story to paper. For those who have not, time is passing, and we are not getting any younger and our memories of that time are not getting any sharper. Please, take the time to tell your story. Write it down and share it with our Society so that it is preserved.

Writing is hard work, we understand. If putting it down on paper is too daunting, we can make a recording of you. Either way, please let us hear your stories and preserve them for future generations.