

# The Heritage Gazette

*Preserve the Past, Honor the Present, Shape the Future*

Volume II, Issue 1

Spring 2015

## Meet the Author!

### A CHF Book Buzz Experience

**"Stories of a Rivertown: Covington, Louisiana at 200 Years,"** C. Howard Nichols' long-awaited anthology of the history of Covington, its culture, people and stories, is finally here! The much-anticipated book signing, co-sponsored by CHF and the Southern Hotel, will be held at the hotel on **Friday, April 10, 4 to 7 pm.**



Nichols, who grew up in Covington, is a popular historian,

author, lecturer, and Professor Emeritus at Southeastern Louisiana University.

At the signing, a percentage of the bar sales as well as a portion of book sales (\$5 of each \$35 book) will benefit CHF. Books can be mailed anywhere in the US for \$40, including shipping. Check or money orders to: C. Howard Nichols, 406 Gen. Pershing, Hammond, LA 70401.



## History Mystery...

The very first library in Covington was named the MCB Library. Do you know what MCB stands for? The answer is **Minerva's Chosen Band** - Minerva was the Goddess of Knowledge, Poetry, Mystery and Magic. - Patricia Clanton



Festival goers with a penchant for antiques and vintage collectibles should mark their calendars for the first annual **Covington Heritage Antique Festival** scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 18 - 19, from 10 am - 5 pm, at the Covington Trailhead, 419 North New Hampshire Street. On Saturday, a live auction begins at 5 pm extending the festival a bit.

Spectators can peruse the eclectic mix of antique furnishings, period collectibles, architectural salvage and vintage-inspired fine arts and crafts. "Going once, going twice...!" On Saturday, be sure to go to the **live antiques and vintage auction**, hosted by Auction Louisianne, located at the Covington Trailhead Champagne Beverage Stage. Auction items will be displayed in the Trailhead Museum on Saturday from 10am to 4pm. For additional auction information, call (985) 892-4451 or email [info@auctionnola.com](mailto:info@auctionnola.com).

Plan to spend the day "antiquing" on Sunday. A panel of experts will be stationed at the Trailhead to host an **"Appraise-a-Thon"** from noon to 3pm. The public is invited to bring their treasures and curiosities and, for a small fee - \$5 for one item or \$10 for three items - will receive an informal verbal appraisal.

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## CHF Honors Preservation Month in May

Since the National Trust for Historic Preservation created Preservation Week in 1971 to spotlight grassroots preservation efforts in America, it has grown into an annual celebration observed in May by many small towns and big cities. What exactly is historic preservation? It is much more than saving old buildings. It champions and protects places that tell the stories of the past. It is knowing your history - the history of your house, your neighborhood, or the places that create memories for you and your family. It enhances a sense of community and brings us closer together.

In an effort to assure that all Covingtonians are conversant with their common past, the Covington Heritage Foundation has created the **"Preserving Historic Covington: An Educational Program to Preserve and Promote the History of Covington."**

Through the efforts of Jack Terry, our goal of creating a visual architectural inventory with photographs, land records, and maps is well underway. A complete inventory of the Division of Spring has been compiled, and those houses in the Division of New Covington that display the architectural integrity found around the early 1900s are now being inventoried. Along with the house

Did you know that Covington is laid out into divisions? Which one do you live in? Stay tuned to find out!

inventory, a program for local school children that brings history to them, as well as a driving tour of various sites, is in the planning stages. Residents of houses shown on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of 1927 will be given an opportunity to purchase a Historic House of Covington plaque from the Heritage Foundation. (If you are not familiar with Sanborn Maps, check out this website: <http://www.citylab.com/housing/2014/10/the-accidental-revelations-of-sanborn-maps/381262>.) We will post information on the Historic House plaque criteria at a later date.

Get involved and join the **Preserving Historic Covington Committee** now by sending an email to [covingtonheritagefoundation@mail.com](mailto:covingtonheritagefoundation@mail.com). It promises to be a fun and worthwhile project!



## Second Annual CHF Crawfish Boil Scheduled...

Nothing says "heritage" in Louisiana quite like a community gathered around food, friends and family. CHF will host its 2nd annual Crawfish Boil and membership drive on **Sunday, May 31 at 4pm**. Last year's "Boilin' at the Brewery" gained 58 new members, and was a great success, thanks in part to the Covington Brewhouse and Covington Fire Department. It's just one of the many events sponsored by CHF that seek to encourage community involvement in Covington's rich cultural heritage. Tickets are \$15 for current members, \$25 for new CHF members, \$40 for new CHF family memberships, and \$5 for children under the age 6. Price includes 2015 membership fee, beer and crawfish. We hope this event will bring out many young families in an attempt to foster the love of Covington's history in a new generation. So mark your calendars for this fun-filled May event, and stay tuned for more ticket information!



## Covington Heritage FOUNDATION

### OFFICERS

Mayor Mike Cooper - Ex Officio  
Sharon Nunez - President  
Sue Osbon - Vice President  
Leslie Durio - Recording Secretary  
Anna Grundmann - Corresponding Secy.  
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### BOARD MEMBERS

Aimee Faucheux  
Pam Keller  
Suzanne King  
Ralph Menetre  
Winifred Menetre

### CONSULTING HISTORIAN

C. Howard Nichols

## Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

On Wednesday, March 4, CHF partnered with the St. Tammany Parish Library and co-hosted "The End of the Long Hot Summer: The Air Conditioner and Southern Culture," a presentation by scholar Dr. Ray Arsenault at the Center of Performing Arts. It was part of "Suddenly Less Summer: The Effects of Air Conditioning on Louisiana," presented by the Library during March, with emphasis on the importance of porches in a pre-air conditioned era. Dr. Arsenault presented his audience some fond reminiscences, an amusing slide show, and the development of air conditioners and their impact on our lives.





## CHF Spotlight On ... JACK TERRY

Not many knew who this jovial fellow named Jack Terry was back in 2012 when he began showing up around the bicentennial events. Having only been in Covington for a few years, he was just another newcomer interested in the history and culture of this unique place we call home.



Jack was born in New Orleans and graduated from St Aloysius High School and Tulane University. He received a master's degree in nuclear engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. Prior to moving to Covington in 2009, Jack and his wife Sandra spent the previous twenty years in Frederick, Maryland where he was a member of the Frederick County Historical Society and spent many years on its board of directors. Jack was very active in exploring and writing about the history of Frederick County and has lectured extensively on early Frederick County clocks and clock-makers.

Mayor Mike Cooper enthusiastically introduced me to Mr. Terry one evening saying, "This guy is looking for something to do, and I think you could probably put him to work." Fast forward to 2015, this former stranger to most of us, has become a familiar face around town. Thanks to his many tedious hours researching the conveyance records in the Legal Center, perusing old phone books, tax records, church records, Sanborn and Tobin maps, Covington will soon have the largest architectural inventory ever in its history. This inventory will be the major contribution to the Heritage Foundation's new program, ***Preserving Historic Covington: An Educational Program to preserve and Promote the History of Covington.*** Without Mr. Terry, this program would have taken many years to come to fruition. For that, Mr. Terry, the Covington Heritage Foundation puts you in *The Spotlight!* - Sharon Nunez

### ***Antique Festival continued***

Categories include antique and vintage furniture, costume jewelry, military memorabilia, flatware, glassware, and collectibles. Other attractions include classic cars, free historic walking tours, food and music.

"We are delighted to launch this new event. Hopefully it will raise cultural awareness and civic pride among local residents and give us a chance to show newcomers what a special place our hometown is," said Covington's Department of Cultural Arts and Events Manager Aimee Faucheux, who is organizing the event.

Volunteers from the Covington Heritage Foundation will lend support by assisting with registration, hospitality, and hosting a welcome/informational reception for vendors. If you are interested in a volunteer role at the event, please contact Event Volunteer Coordinator, Leslie Durio at [info@covingtonheritagefoundation.com](mailto:info@covingtonheritagefoundation.com). For additional festival information, contact Aimee Faucheux at (985) 867-1202.

### ***Kudos to Covington!***

Historic Downtown Covington has been recognized by the Louisiana Chapter of the American Planning Association as a "**Great Places in Louisiana**" award winner! "Great Places" is a flagship program celebrating places that represent the gold standard in terms of having a true sense of place, cultural and historical interest, community involvement, and a vision for tomorrow. CHF applauds you!



Share this newsletter with a friend and ask them to join us. Go to our website to see the various membership levels!

### ***2014 CHF Holiday Membership Gala Highlights***



Members of The Covington Heritage Foundation staged a celebration on December 11, 2014 at the Southern Hotel, the newest gem in the crown of downtown Covington. Mark Johnson was spotlighted with his presentation, "Naughty or Nice: Covington in the 1860s and 1960s." Adding to the spirited atmosphere was music by Steppin' Up, delicious food from Catering by Don, and wine from Aquistapace's.

Elizabeth Moore



# *Upcoming Events*

**Friday, April 10**

*C. Howard Nichols Book Signing*  
SOUTHERN HOTEL 4 - 7PM

**Tuesday, April 14**

*Mark Johnson's "History for a New Generation"*  
ST. PAUL'S AUDITORIUM

**Saturday/Sunday April 18-19**

*Covington Heritage Antique Festival*  
COVINGTON TRAILHEAD 10 - 5 EACH DAY

**Wednesday, April 29**

*Preservation Celebration*

2015 Celebration in Excellence Award  
Preserving Historic Covington:  
A CHF Education Program

MAYOR'S COFFEE AT THE TRAILHEAD 9AM

**Sunday, May 31**

*2nd Annual "Boilin' at the Brewery*  
COVINGTON BREWHOUSE 4PM

**December 2015**

*Holiday Membership/Annual Meeting Gala*  
SOUTHERN HOTEL BALLROOM

*Home Tour - To be announced*