

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL LOUISIANA
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REMINDER:

HACL ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday June 6th at 2:00 PM
OLD LECOMPTE HIGH SCHOOL
2204 St. Charles Avenue
Lecompte, LA
RSVP: (318) 442-4567



Old Lecompte High School



James H. Davis
1924 Yearbook Photograph

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- 2:00-2:15** Sign in and assemble in auditorium
- 2:15-2:20** Welcome - President Charles Charrier
- 2:20-2:25** Brief Remarks – Fr Chad Partain
- 2:25-2:30** History of Old LeCompte HS – Ron Schneider
- 2:30-2:35** HACL Publications - Paul Price & Michael Wynne
- 2:35-2:40** Historical Markers - Michael Wynne
- 2:40-4:00** Museum tour on your own

Louisiana College recently honored one of its distinguished graduates, James H. "Jimmie" Davis, who later served two separate terms as Governor of Louisiana from 1944-1948 and 1960-1964. Aside from his political career, he is perhaps best known these days as the author of the song, "*You Are My Sunshine*", the second most-performed song in the entire world today.

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**Governor James Davis
Historical Marker Unveiling Ceremony**



**James H. "Jimmie" Davis
(1899-2000)**

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Davis spent four years at Louisiana College, and has now become its most famous graduate. On Friday, May 7, 2021, LC President Dr. Rick Brewer unveiled an historical marker in Davis' honor in front of Alexandria Hall. Well-attended by many friends of Davis and of Louisiana College, the ceremony speakers included Dr. Brewer, historian Michael Wynne, community leader Mike Tudor and former La. Secretary of State Jim Brown, who was also a close personal friend of the late Governor. The beautiful spring day observance was concluded with the singing of a new arrangement of "*You Are My Sunshine*" performed by the LC men's singing group, **The Louisianians**. It was a wonderful occasion to unveil a well-deserved historical marker that will likely survive much longer than the century that Jimmie Davis lived himself.



**Alexandria Historical and Genealogical
Library and Museum**

ATTENTION:

Genealogy Workshop

**July 19-23, Monday-Friday, 9AM – Noon
Alexandria Historical and Genealogical
Library and Museum**

**503 Washington St., Alexandria, LA
All ages. Call 318-487-8556 to register.**

Limited seating.

**Visit our website ahgl.org or
email us at ahgl@att.net**



Kent Plantation House

The Colonial Dames and Kent House

Contributed by Cissy Galloway

In spite of this most unusual year, wonderful things have been happening behind the scenes at one of Central Louisiana's historic jewels, Kent Plantation House. Thanks to a dedicated group of staff and volunteer organizations, Kent House looks better than ever.

For more than the past fifty years, the primary benefactors of the interiors of Kent House have been members of the local National Society of Colonial Dames of America (NSCDA). Colonial Dames have also contributed their own families' colonial artifacts and furnishings to the house. Current Dames members include daughters and granddaughters of the Dames who initiated the 1970's reclamation and restoration of the house.

During the past year Colonial Dames have had many artifacts in Kent House repaired, cleaned, waxed, and sealed.

Also during the past year, Colonial Dames have installed track lighting in the Artifacts Room at Kent House. The Artifacts room is believed to have served as bedroom for the oldest sons of the builder. It now contains colonial maps of this area, legal documents transferring ownership of the property, and portraits of members of the two families who owned Kent House.

Another recent enhancement to Kent House arranged by the Colonial Dames is refurbishment of the Stranger's Room. This room was used by late eighteenth and early nineteenth century travelers who needed safe places to sleep, since there were no hotels in this area. At Kent House, the Stranger's Room has a separate entrance and exit. Very few Stranger's Rooms remain in existence, so the one at Kent House is particularly noteworthy.

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Kent Plantation House Interior Photographs

Submitted by Cissy Galloway

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The Stranger's Room was furnished by Colonial Dames. It has a trundle rope bed with mosquito netting, toiletry appliances, and a dressing screen for privacy. Some original bousillage in one wall has been exposed for view by today's visitors. This room was furnished by local Colonial Dames and is part of the tour of Kent House. The Dames consulted Robert Smith of The Saxon Guild for the recent refurbishment of the Stranger's Room.



Colonial Dames are now investigating the feasibility of installing additional track lighting in other rooms of Kent House, beginning with the Master Bedroom. This room displays artifacts from families whose ancestors lived at Kent House, pieces donated by Dames, and other beautiful handmade furnishings and textiles.



Come and visit Kent House and its grounds and outbuildings! Tours are now offered by appointment but will soon be expanded. Call 487-7998 or 487-5660 to schedule a tour.

KENT PLANTATION HOUSE ANNUAL JANE IN JUNE CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!



Register Today!
Jane In June

2021 Camp

For young ladies
ages 8 to 12



Monday, June 21 to Friday, June 25

9 AM to 3:30 PM

During Jane in June, young ladies will complete numerous art projects, attend and host authentic tea parties, learn dances, etiquette, journal, games, and pastimes of Jane Austen's era. They will learn to set and serve a proper table for a variety of occasions, tour the Kent House, grounds, and create a summer full of lifetime memories.

Camp Tuition is \$200.00 per camper. This includes lunch, snacks, and supplies each day. Hours are from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Children are not to be dropped off before 8:45 AM. Attendance is limited to the first 24 young ladies who register, ages 8 to 12.

REGISTER NOW! Go To <https://kenthouse.org/events>



HATS OFF TO THE CITY OF PINEVILLE!

Newly graded driveways at the Old Rapides Cemetery were recently covered throughout with a generous layer of crushed stone. Special thanks to Mayor Clarence Fields and Tom David, City Engineer.

ATTENTION READERS

Please consider becoming a member of the
Historical Association of Central Louisiana.

The Historical Association of Central Louisiana is a partnership of members who share a common interest in preserving our local history for future generations.

Mission: HACL strives to advance the preservation, appreciation, and understanding of things of historical value in the central Louisiana community.

Visit our website for details on becoming a member:
theHACL.org