

FORT MORGAN NEWS

January 2021~Issue 167



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all FMCA members!

Just a few items to be aware of as we close out 2020. As of January 1st, the Hurricane Sally clean up contractor has completed their task of debris removal. ALDOT requests that any additional debris not be placed adjacent to SR180. Baldwin County Dept of Solid Waste will resume debris pickups. Be sure to call BCSW at (251) 972-6878 to schedule bulk debris removal.

The Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Dept Annual meeting is scheduled for January 12th, 2021. There are positions on the Board that are coming up for nomination. If you are interested in serving the community on the Board of the FMVFD, please submit a resume and your contact info to: fmvfdal@gulftel.com



We have a Board vacancy also in our organization. Our own Vice President, Ernie Church, has decided to not seek re-election to the Executive Board for 2021. We all certainly appreciate the hard work and countless hours Ernie put into this organization and community over the years. If you would like to get more involved in the Association, please contact election committee chair Jim Aucoin. The year 2020 has been difficult and full of obstacles to say the least. But with these obstacles, we have learned to adjust, be patient and stay flexible to continue our progress as advocates for the Fort Morgan community. For 2021, we have opportunities ahead that will lend to further protecting and preserving our community while also educating residents and locals alike on how to be better stewards of District 25. We will also be looking at better ways to communicate with you, our members, and promote more membership participation in meetings and voting. I hope that we will be able to boost community involvement in 2021 with FMCA sponsored local events that will help boost our membership as well.

I thank you all for your continued support of the Fort Morgan Civic Association and I hope that 2021 brings joy and good fortune to you and your family. Thank you for your continued support of the FMCA.

Joe

Joe Emerson

#fortmorganstrong

Agenda for this month's FMCA General Meeting:

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance	Joe Emerson, President
Previous FMCA General Meeting Minutes	Jim Aucoin, Secretary
Treasurer's Report	Greg Strategier, Treasurer
Government Affairs Report	Michael Ludvigsen, FMCA Government Liaison
Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Advisory Cte.	Ernie Church, Chair
Old Business	
- Board Election Committee	
New Business	
- Membership Dues (vote)	
- Baldwin County Historic App	
- BCSO Update	
- Open Floor	
Adjournment: Next Meeting, 8 February	

FMCA Membership ~~~~~

Reminder: Annual Dues are due by Due December 31 annually. Additionally, please contact FMCA Membership Chair at fmcamemberships@gmail.com for any changes to membership status (i.e., address / email update, death of a member)

For membership application by mail or online, access Fort Morgan Civic Association website (<https://www.fortmorgancivic.org/>), click on membership tab, and select desired process (online or mail), then follow the prompts.

Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Committee~~~~~Ernie Church, FM P&Z Advisory Cte Chair

Future Fort Morgan Planning and Zoning Committee meetings will be noted on <https://www.fortmorgancivic.org/> as well as associated case files if a meeting is scheduled.

Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department~~~~~

The Fire Department responded to 16 calls in December. Paul Hagen was recognized as the Firefighter of the Year.

Remember SAFETY FIRST while cleaning up and making repairs from the storms. Also remember to get your regular Flu shot and practice COVID-19 safety.

Stay Safe,
Jerry Ralston, Chief FMVFD

Fort Morgan Peninsula Neighborhood Safety & Crime Report ~~~~~BCSO

“If you see something, Say something”. It is so important, for the Sheriff’s Office to know what you know.

EMERGENCY: 911 -Report all potentially life-threatening and suspicious activities

Sheriff’s Department—Administrative Office.....972-6802

Sheriff’s Office Website: www.sheriffofbaldwin.com

Anonymous Tip Email Address (NOT for Emergencies):

<http://sheriffofbaldwin.com/contactRC.asp>

Upcoming Events/ Community Support Opportunities in Fort Morgan:

Share the Beach~~~~~

Turtle nesting season ended 31 October. Please be aware that outside lights hinder the nesting process of female turtles. If you own directly on the beach please consider checking into turtle friendly lights prior to the 2021 turtle nesting season (starts 1 May 2021). Contact Alabama Coastal Foundation or US Fish and Wildlife for details. Make sure to continue to fill in holes and take up beach equipment to ensure safe beaches for residents, visitors and turtles throughout the year.

Fort Morgan State Historic Site~~~~~

Check for current updates on daily operations / park entry procedures at Facebook (Fort Morgan State Historic Site) and website <http://www.fort-morgan.org> .

Check for current updates on refuge operations by <https://www.facebook.com/BonSecourNWR/>, calling the office at 251-540-7720 or emailing bonsecour@fws.gov, messages will be returned as soon as possible.

Fort Morgan History:

Request for contributions – please contact FMCA newsletter editor if you are interested in researching Fort Morgan history or providing personal memories to share of Fort Morgan

**Diary of the Storm – September 26-17, 1906 – Continued from December newsletter
Maude M. Midgette, November 1st 1912**

When we had finished our exploring, we came back and found the rest of our party waiting for us as breakfast was being served at the Major's Quarters for us. Never shall I forget the group they presented as we came up to them. The soldiers came over from the Canteen and this is what they served to us: a large pan full of biscuit, another of gravy, and still another of fried beef steak, and last of all came the coffee and Oh! the size of the cups were immense, but we did not mind that for we were thankful for even that much. They gave us sugar for our coffee but the milk was lacking, and when everyone started eating, my!! What a group for a Kodak for some was sitting on the floor, others standing and some even kneeling. T was a picture worthy of a frame.

Breakfast over (and again thanking the soldiers) we again strolled around the Fort glad of so much freedom. In the meantime, Papa and the rest of the crowd had arrived from the Cove with the body of Mr. Johnson. He was brought up to the 8th Co. Barracks to wait to be conveyed to the city for burial. While we were standing on the Government wharf (or at least a part of it) we saw a Fruiter coming around the Fort, and we also knew that she was coming in with-out a pilot, for both pilot boats were blown away in the storm (but no lives lost). After the first Fruiter came, four more soon followed and last came a very large Steamer, and for want of a Pilot she ran aground and had to remain there for nearly a week after the storm.

Papa (being a pilot) quickly decided that he would pilot one of the vessels to the city, as the captain of each one was afraid to make an attempt, for all the channel lights and stakes were gone and there was nothing left for a guide. So, the boys rowed Papa (in a small boat) to one of the Fruiters, and he at once started for the city of Mobile. I shall never forget how he looked as he made his way to the ship. He was wet and cold and very much worn out, and so down-hearted, and he felt very uneasy about Mobile. He said he knew that the city had been damaged a great deal; hence his eagerness to be on his way. The Captain of the Fruiter gave Papa several bunches of ripe bananas, and he (Papa) gave them to the boys to bring to us on shore, which we all enjoyed very much.

To be continued in the February FMCA newsletter. *Thanks to Chan West, long time Fort Morgan resident and FMCA member for this submission.*

FMCA Executive Board Contacts

Officers

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Standing Committee Chairs

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