

A special invitation to “Winter Texans” . . .

Learn, be entertained, and meet new people

at the **Museum of the Coastal Bend**, The Victoria College, Victoria, TX
Where Texas History Began

La Salle Odyssey

One Story told by Seven Texas Museums

In early February of 1680 a small French ship, the Belle, went down in the murky waters of Matagorda Bay on the Texas Gulf Coast. With the ship went a famous explorer's dreams and a king's ambition to expand his empire in the New World.

The La Salle Odyssey, a series of exhibits in seven museums, tells the story of this ill-fated expedition and remarkable discovery and excavation of the Belle and Fort St. Louis 300 years later.

La Salle's doomed colony on the Texas Coast

La Salle built a small settlement near Matagorda Bay called Fort St. Louis. By 1680, Karankawas had killed or captured the last of the settlers, and La Salle's own men had murdered him. This exhibit includes seven of the eight cannons that defended the colony, exhibits about the Texas Historical Commission's excavation of Fort St. Louis, and artifacts from earlier archeological excavations.



“Winter Friend” Membership Benefits

- ◆ Free admission to the Museum from October through March
- ◆ Free admission to Lifelong Learning lectures & activities
- ◆ Invitations to members-only receptions
- ◆ 10% discount in Museum Store, for special events and bus trips
- ◆ Volunteer opportunities as tour guides, greeters and archaeology laboratory workers

“Winter Friend” Special Rate \$20.00 per person

Telephone 361-582-2434

www.museumofthecoastalbend.org

Located at the corner of East Red River
and Ben Jordan on the campus of
The Victoria College, Victoria, TX
Viewing Hours: Tues—Sat, 10am—4pm

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, FALL/WINTER 2008

FREE for “Winter Friends”

Lifelong Learning Lectures (Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.)

- Oct. 9 Rumbo al' Anacua presents *Music of the South Texas Borderlands*, performance with lecture about early music
- Oct. 23 Author James M. Smallwood discusses his award-winning new book *The Feud That Wasn't*, with a new perspective on the famous Sutton-Taylor feud in DeWitt County
- Nov. 6 Dr. Robert Ricklis, archaeologist, presents *Discoveries at Buckeye Knoll Cemetery Site*, one of the three earliest burial sites found in the United States, located in Victoria County.

Receptions & Activities

- Oct. 9, 6:30—8:00 p.m. Five-year anniversary celebration and performance by Mary Perez, original member of the Perez Orchestra from 1940; Hispanic heritage celebration
- Oct. 30, 7:30—9:00 p.m. SPOOKY Guided Flashlight Tour
- Nov. 8, 3:00—5:00 p.m. Diwali: Hindu New Year Festival—dance performances, demonstrations, activities
- December—Members' Holiday Reception; Holiday Artisan's Market
- February—Members' Reception for World War II Exhibition