

LEOH Trip

November 26, 2019

Galveston Harbor Tour/Dolphin Watch; Bus Tour of Historic Buildings and Tree Sculptures



On the left: Harbor Tour Captain **Blake Eubanks**, with LEOH member Kevin Kinsella.

On the far left: On Pier 21 we were greeted first by a large sculpture, shown here with a couple of seagull friends

and the Elissa in the background.



On the left: The Captain welcomed us aboard the *Baywatch Too*.

ALL ABOARD!





Above: Brown pelicans lined up on a boat and a dock, ready for lunch! A seagull is interested, too.



Many dolphins were sighted, making for a successful and exciting harbor tour!

Next: Lunch at ***Fish Tales*** on the seawall.



It appears everyone enjoyed their lunch. Is that a look of sublime gastronomical joy by someone enjoying an oyster on the half shell?



Following lunch, we picked up local guide **Chris Elzen** for a tour by bus of historic buildings and post-hurricane tree sculptures.



Above is the 31-room Moody Mansion, built in 1895. In 1994 it was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Note the examples of beautifully restored homes; one even includes a widow's walk. Of interest are several vintage advertising signs seen around town. And there are still 7 of 17 original Rosenberg water fountains throughout town, commissioned in 1898 by philanthropist and immigrant Henry Rosenberg, to provide drinking water for "man and beast". Nowadays horses drawing carriages of tourists can still enjoy a fountain drink. These are all examples of the value placed on Galveston preservation.



We also passed by numerous tree sculptures, crafted by artisans, from trees killed by saltwater from Hurricane Ike.



The dog sculpture, seen looking over a fence, is currently wearing a Texans' football jersey! The two sculptures in the middle exhibit some quite intricate carving. The guitar on the right was carved by the homeowner, rather than by a commissioned artist.



Topping off a fun-filled day, we enjoyed a comfort stop at Buc-ee's on our return to Houston. Thanks goes to Ann Fairchild, our trip coordinator, for planning and executing our trip, and to our bus driver Tina (seen on the left) for making it safe and comfortable.