

# FORT MORGAN NEWS

## January 2022~Issue 179



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all and a warm welcome to new FMCA members!

The past year has been a difficult one for many in our community and I for one say good riddance to 2021, and welcome 2022 with open arms. I believe that the coming year will bring lots of good news and opportunity for us all here in Fort Morgan.

It was great seeing everyone at the Christmas Party! It's so nice to be able to gather in good company again.

As a reminder, dues for 2022 membership ARE DUE NOW! We generally allow a short grace period for these dues to be paid but why wait?!? Visit our website: <https://www.fortmorgancivic.org/membership.html> to renew from your computer or mobile device in just a few clicks.

Also, we are always seeking new membership! There have been plenty of new folks buying homes in Fort Morgan over the past 6 months, if your new neighbor is not a member of our organization, tell them about us and what we do. Invite them to come to our next meeting!

I am looking forward to seeing you all on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm for our regular monthly meeting. Thank you for your continued support of the FMCA and our combined efforts to preserve and protect the Fort Morgan community.



**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	Ryan Manning, 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 - FMCA 2022 Board Elections - FMPZAC Appointments - EMA Riptide Safety Update - County SB 107 Update	
New Business - Open Floor	
Adjournment	

**Next FMCA General Meeting: 14 February 2022, 6:30pm**

**FMCA Membership ~~~~~**

**Reminder:** Annual Dues are due by Due December 31 annually. Additionally, please contact FMCA Membership Chair at [fortmorgancivic@gmail.com](mailto:fortmorgancivic@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.

**Notice: FMCA Officer Elections- January 10 2021 ~~~~~FMCA Bylaws**

**ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

Section 1 The officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer

Section 2 Officers shall be elected annually by a majority of the votes cast at the regularly scheduled January General Meeting. The first item on the agenda shall be the elections. Nominations shall be made by a Nominating Committee of three current members elected by the membership at the October general meeting. Nominations also may be made from the floor after announcement of the Nominating Committee’s nominee for each of the four offices. Nominations shall not be closed until the general members have an opportunity to nominate candidates from the floor. Each nominee shall be given five (5) minutes to state his or her qualifications and present a platform. Voting will immediately follow the close of nominations for each office. Outgoing officers shall deliver all records to the respective incoming officers at the conclusion of the meeting.

Section 3 Vacancies occurring in an office before the end of term, with the exception of Section 5 below, shall be filled by election by a majority vote of current members. Such officer shall serve until the end of the unexpired term.

Section 4 Working closely with the Executive Board and general membership, the President shall provide the leadership to develop and accomplish the goals and objectives of the Association as approved by the membership. The President shall preside at meetings of the Association as facilitator through the democratic process and may call special meetings and appoint ad hoc committees.

Section 5 In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President. Upon the President’s resignation, removal or inability to perform the duties of office, the Vice-President shall become President until the next annual election of officers. The Vice-President shall be responsible for representing the interests of the general membership, for assisting the President in facilitating the democratic process and for carrying out the decisions of the members.

Section 6 The Secretary shall keep, in permanent form: the minutes of the Association and the Executive Board, a list of committees and their members and a record of attendance at all meetings to be provided by the Membership Committee chair. The Secretary also shall conduct the correspondence and maintain the official administrative records of the Association.

Section 7 The Treasurer shall receive all monies, pay all legitimate bills, and prepare a financial report to be submitted at each regular meeting. The Treasurer also shall disburse funds as directed by majority vote of a quorum of members at a scheduled meeting. Amounts of less than two hundred dollars (\$200) for legitimate, receipted expenses shall not require a vote but may be disbursed at the Treasurer’s discretion. All checks drawn on the Association account shall bear the signatures of two officers of the Association. The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining official financial records of the Association and an alphabetical roster of members, for ensuring the appropriate and legal disbursement of the Association’s funds and for arranging an annual independent accounting review of the Association’s financial records.

**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.sheriffobaldwin.com](http://www.sheriffobaldwin.com)**

**Anonymous Tip Email Address (NOT for Emergencies):**

**<http://sheriffobaldwin.com/contactRC.asp>**

**Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department~~~~~**

The Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department is seeking volunteers. No experience necessary. Must be full time resident of Fort Morgan. Training is provided. We meet the first and third Monday at 6:30 p. m. at Fire Station one. Come and visit our sessions.

Stay Safe,  
FMVFD

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

The Baldwin County Commission appointed Chuck Scott to the Ft Morgan Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee replacing long time member Bonnie Lowry who has resigned. The committee met on Dec 27th and recommended approval of Case Z21-000009 to re-zone (from B-2 to RSF-1) 3+ acres of vacant land adjacent to Our Road. The owner plans to build single family cottages in that area. The committee will consider that proposal at their next meeting in January if requisite filings have been made with the county.

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

**Baldwin County Planning & Zoning~~~~~**

The planning and zoning department has implemented a new program called “CITIZENSERVE” which allows individuals access to records pertaining to building permits, land use certificates, zoning issues and variance requests. To access the “CITIZENSERVE” portal do the following:

- Go to BALDWINCOUNTYAL.GOV
- Click on Departments
- Click on Planning and Zoning
- Click on Citizenserve Portal
- Go to Reports
- Click on the type of report you want to view

**Upcoming Events/ Community Support Opportunities in Fort Morgan:**

**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> .

**Bon Secour NWR~~~~~**

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](mailto:bonsecour@fws.gov), messages will be returned as soon as possible.

## Fort Morgan History:

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

## Fort Morgan Census

In the 1920 federal census there were 30 soldiers with families at the fort, plus another 230 unaccompanied soldiers. There were also civilian doctors, engineers, laborers, plumbers, merchants, electricians, carpenters, laundresses, clerks, a watchman and a lighthouse keeper. All totaled 356 at the fort. Ten years later in 1930, the federal census listed Fort Morgan as a “Old U.S. Post Hospital” which housed three families:

The Sanders family – Donald (age 32), Norma (age 22), Eugene (age 5) and Frances (age 3). Mr. Sanders was a radio operator for the United Fruit Company.

J. Mullihan (age 52) was the caretaker of the Fort.

The Bangold family – Thomas (age 40), Anya (age 20), Annie (age 3) and William (age 1 ½). Mr. Bangold was the lighthouse keeper.

*This history information is a reprint from the January 2020 FMCA Newsletter.*

## FMCA Executive Board Contacts

### Officers

President	Joe Emerson	251-550-9021	<a href="mailto:captjoesells@gmail.com">captjoesells@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Ernie Church	334-220-0851	<a href="mailto:ecaces4@gmail.com">ecaces4@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Greg Strategier	337-849-6506	<a href="mailto:samsplace41805@gmail.com">samsplace41805@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Ryan Manning	251-752-4344	<a href="mailto:ryanmanning@gulftel.com">ryanmanning@gulftel.com</a>

### Non-Officers

FMCA / Local / State / Federal  
Government Liaison  
Editor Fort Morgan Newsletter

Michael Ludvigsen	217-473-9728	<a href="mailto:mtludvigsenjr@gmail.com">mtludvigsenjr@gmail.com</a>
Karrie Lovins	580-917-4593	<a href="mailto:klovins68@icloud.com">klovins68@icloud.com</a>

### Standing Committee Chairs

Future Fort Morgan Options	Ernie Church	334-220-0851	<a href="mailto:ecaces4@gmail.com">ecaces4@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Thelma Strong	251-540-7383	<a href="mailto:twstrong@gulftel.com">twstrong@gulftel.com</a>
Land Use & Conservation	Vacant		
Legal	Judy Newcomb	251-955-1572	<a href="mailto:judynewcomb@aol.com">judynewcomb@aol.com</a>
Legislative/Government	Bonnie Lowry	251-540-9327	
Membership	Vacant		
Sunshine	Vacant		

**Fort Morgan Civic Association**  
**P.O. Box 5313 • Gulf Shores, AL 36547**  
*www.fortmorgancivic.org*

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM – ANNUAL DUES \$25.00 (as of 1 Jan 2022)**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Fort Morgan Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

This property is west of mile 14.7: \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no -- See Article III, Section 1 below Associate Member? \_\_\_\_\_ yes

Email (please provide for special alerts) \_\_\_\_\_

Your employment \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's employment \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for joining the Association \_\_\_\_\_

*We need volunteers to help the Association in the following areas. Which can you assist in? (circle)*

Program Planning:    Speakers    Phone/Survey Members for Interests

Zoning:    Attend Meetings of Baldwin County/Gulf Shores    Write Brief Reports

Membership:    Recruitment    Phone Tree    Hospitality at Meetings    Help with Pot-Lucks

Communications:    Postal Mailings    E-mail    Writing for Newspaper, Publicity Releases, etc.

Newsletter:    Desktop Graphics/Layout    Gather/Submit News Items    Write Brief Articles    Photography

Computer:    Set Up/Maintain Data Base    Spreadsheets    Excel    Access    Word    PowerPoint

What other skills, experience or talents could you volunteer? \_\_\_\_\_

**From the By-laws Adopted April 11, 2005**

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1    Regular (voting) Membership in this association shall be open only to property owners and/or residents in the unincorporated area west of mile 14.7 of the Fort Morgan peninsula.

Section 2    Associate (non-voting) Membership shall be open to residents of areas outside the Fort Morgan Peninsula whose interests coincide with those of the Association including the preservation of the environment and quality of life of the Fort Morgan peninsula.

Section 3    Membership application shall be made by completion of a form provided by the Association and payment of the required dues. Dues for the following year shall be determined at the October general meeting and shall be for the following calendar year January 1st through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Section 4    Payment of Regular (voting) Membership dues entitles a member household to one (1) vote. A member household is comprised of Association members living at one physical address. Past year member households paying dues after January 31st and new members joining the Association will have no voting rights until thirty (30) days after payment of dues.

Section 5    Payment of Associate (non-voting) Membership dues entitles the member to attend all member meetings and receive the monthly newsletter.

Make checks payable to: **Fort Morgan Civic Association or FMCA**

**I would like to make a donation to the Operating Fund in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Annual dues @ \$25/household \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Your donation to the Fort Morgan Civic Association is not tax deductible as we do not qualify because of our political activity in attempting to prevent proliferation of large-scale high-rise development on Fort Morgan Peninsula.