



**BUFFALO BAYOU PARTNERSHIP and THE LANCASTER HOTEL**

Present a

**BOOK SIGNING**

with

**Louis Aulbach**

**Buffalo Bayou: An Echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings**

**Sunday, February 5, 2012**

**What:**

Local historian, Louis Aulbach has been on a quest of discovering Buffalo Bayou. His newest book, ***Buffalo Bayou: An Echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings*** reflects twelve years of research and discoveries along Houston's historic waterway. Mr. Aulbach will share stories of the Allen brothers, the founders of Houston, and provide historical information about our City's first families and businesses.

Reception and book signing will follow the discussion.

**When:**

**Sunday, February 5 from 2:30-4:30pm**

**Where:**

**The Lancaster Hotel**

701 Texas Avenue (at Louisiana), Houston Texas, 77002 (across from the Alley Theatre)  
To park, enter Civic Center underground garage from Texas Avenue or Capitol (\$7). From Louisiana, enter Alley garage (\$6) or 717 Garage across from the Alley (\$5). Street parking is free on Sundays. The Lancaster valet is \$15 or \$8 with a meal in Bistro Lancaster. *FYI – The Houston Grand Opera begins at 2:00 pm at The Wortham. Curtain Call for both Alley plays is 2:30 pm.*

**How much:**

**Admittance is free. Profit from the book sales benefit the Buffalo Bayou Partnership.  
\$25 per book/\$27.06 including tax.**

**More about the book:**

***Buffalo Bayou: An Echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings*** is an historical guide to Buffalo Bayou. Beginning at its origin in Fort Bend County, the book follows the bayou as it flows 60 miles through the heart of metropolitan Houston to the Sidney Sherman Bridge (I-610 East) and it includes historical information about places, people and events along the bayou that have helped shape Houston.

**The Presenting Author:**

Louis F. Aulbach is the author of five best-selling river guides to the rivers of West Texas, including three guides to the Rio Grande, a guide to the Pecos River and a guide to the Devils River. His first river guide, called the Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande, was first published in 1987 and is now in its fourth edition.

His most recent publication is a guide to Buffalo Bayou in Houston, which delves extensively into the local history along the city's most famous stream.

Aulbach, a native Houstonian, is a graduate of St. Thomas High School, Rice University and the University of Chicago. He retired in 2008 after over 17 years as the Records Management Officer for the City of Houston. He served on the Harris County Historical Commission in the 2009-2010 term.

Updated information to his published guides and excerpts from his current projects can be found on Aulbach's website: <http://users.hal-pc.org/~lfa/>



BUFFALO BAYOU  
PARTNERSHIP



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**About Buffalo Bayou Partnership**

**Buffalo Bayou Partnership** is the non-profit organization revitalizing and transforming Buffalo Bayou, Houston's most significant natural resource. BBP's jurisdiction is from Shepherd Drive to the Turning Basin (near the Port of Houston) which is about a 10 mile stretch.

The Partnership coordinates the integration of major amenities into the bayou greenbelt and seeks ways to increase community involvement through pedestrian, boating and biking activities, permanent and temporary art installations, and other natural and built attractions.

### **About the Lancaster Hotel**

The Lancaster Hotel, known as the Auditorium Hotel prior to extensive remodeling and name change in 1982, is located in the heart of Houston's business, financial, court, historic and theater districts. Built by Sicilian immigrant and real estate investor Michele DeGeorge and designed by architect Joseph Finger, the hotel opened November 21, 1926. Finger added Italian Renaissance details on the upper floor in a nod to the 1910 City Auditorium across the street. As it begins its 86th year, the Lancaster is still owned by descendants of the original developer and is Houston's oldest continually operating hotel.

The hotel has hosted performing artists, wrestlers, boxers, cowboys, as well as business, leisure travelers and even two horses. During World War II, the basement served as the Stage Canteen, a cabaret for military servicemen where 200,000 men in uniform enjoyed free food and drinks during its three years in operation. In 1984, the hotel became a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark and in 1985, a charter member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World. Most recently, in October 2010, it was invited to join the Historic Hotels of America, a division of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In support of Heritage Tourism, The Lancaster has an exhibit of over 60 historic photographs on the first floor, mezzanine level and in the basement. Houston Urban Adventures starts both of its walking tours, the Heart of the Tunnel Walk and the Historic Downtown Pub Crawl, from The Lancaster.