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## NEWSLETTER

Lower Altamaha Historical Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1405  
Darien, Georgia 31305

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Meetings are held at the Historic Courthouse on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm. The Society extends a hearty welcome to all.

LAHS Meeting, January 21, 1993

"OVERVIEW OF BIRDS" presented by Donald Cohrs. What has happened to birds from the time of Christopher Columbus to the present will be the theme of this program in which Don Cohrs will use slides, illustrations and your questions.

Don and Doris Cohrs have banded more birds in Georgia than any other persons and they alone are responsible for the only ongoing Ornithology Research in Georgia. A self taught Ornithologist, Don has been studying birds for 25 years. He was inspired to this avocation by the birds themselves.

The Cohrs have resided in Georgia for the past 24 years. In 1989 they purchased ten acres of land, between Highway 99 and US 17, where Don designed and built their passive solar home. Don, a carpenter by profession started the business of "House Mender". LAHS and McIntosh County are fortunate to have this talented and interesting couple as one of our own.

LAHS Meeting, February 18, 1993

"Mrs. Bessie Lewis" presented by Buddy Sullivan. The focus of this program will be the historical research and writings of the late Mrs. Bessie Lewis, and the benefits derived from her efforts by McIntosh County. Mrs. Lewis was well known for her weekly column in The Darien News "Low Country Diary", extracts from these columns will be presented on slides at the presentation.

Buddy Sullivan, historian, author, Editor of The Darien News, is well known to the LAHS membership, and McIntosh County. Through his published books and weekly editorials and articles, he is respected as an authority on the people and events of McIntosh. Buddy was born at Cedar Point on the McIntosh County tidewater. He grew up playing amid the ruins of the old oyster cannery there and spent the days of his youth in around a variety of watercraft upon the creeks, rivers and sounds of the county. Buddy's forebears came to McIntosh County in 1894 when his great-grandfather, Thomas Marshall Hunter, was called as pastor of the Darien Presbyterian Church.

LAHS Meeting, March 18, 1993

"Freshwater Mussels in the Altamaha River" presented by Dr. Eugene P. Keferl, Chairman, Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at Brunswick College.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

T.B.A.            **SPRING FIELDTRIP, BIRDING** led by Don Cohrs

**March 26 & 27 LIFE AT FORT KING GEORGE**            10am-5pm both days

A reenactment of early 18th century life for the soldiers of Fort King George. Throughout the day as the soldiers honed their fighting skills, the craftsmen were busy building and repairing the fort. Visitors will see regularly scheduled tactical demonstrations and musket drills. Tour the camps and learn about early 18th century life.

**April 16 & 17 GEORGIA'S WILDLIFE: A TIME FOR CHANGE** 10am-5pm both days

This program is used to try and educate us about the variety of wildlife that we have and the pressures that we place upon them. This program not only lets you see wildlife up close, but also allows us to discuss things that can be done to help all of our species.

**April 25 Midway Society of Liberty County-Annual meeting, Midway Church**

Interesting excerpt from **GEORGIA HISTORICAL MARKERS-COASTAL COUNTIES**, Kenneth W. Boyd, Cherokee Publishing Company

**OLD BELLEVILLE OR TROUP CEMETERY**

Within these walls are buried Captain Troup, British Naval officer and his wife, Catherine McIntosh Troup. They were the parents of George M. Troup, Governor of Georgia 1823-1827; U.S. Senator 1829-1833. It was on this plantation that George M. Troup spent his early boyhood.

Ten other graves lie within this enclosure; the inscriptions on the marble slabs which marked them were effaced by time before 1850.

(From GA 99 in Crescent, take the road to Pelican Point 2 miles to dead end, turn left on dirt road for 0.5 mile. GHM\* 095-34, 1957. Note: Worth a special trip-this cemetery has almost been lost in time. )

**ST. ANDREW'S CEMETERY**

At the end of this avenue, on high land overlooking the creeks and marshes, Thomas Spalding of Sapelo established his family burial ground. For many years the Spaldings and their kinsmen were buried there.

In 1867, Charles Spalding, son of Thomas Spalding, gave to Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church in Darien the land surrounding the family plot, to be used perpetually as a cemetery. On February 20, 1876, the Right Reverend Dr. Beckwith, Bishop of Georgia, consecrated the ground now known as St. Andrew's Cemetery.

(Located on GA 99, 1.4 miles east of US 17/GA 25. GHM\* 095-15, 1957.)

\* Georgia Historical Commission/Department of Natural Resources