

NEWSLETTER

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

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Meetings are held at the Ida Hilton Library, Haynes Auditorium, on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. The Society extends a hearty welcome to all.

**LAHS MEETING, July 17, 1997, 7:30 P.M.
HAYNES AUDITORIUM, IDA HILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
DUTCH TREAT SUPPER, 6:00 P.M.**

The program will be presented by Dr. Martha Keber, Professor of History, Georgia College, Milledgeville, Georgia. Dr. Keber's subject for the evening will be the Marquis de Lafayette in Georgia. The history of the Revolution War years in Georgia, and this beloved hero will be presented in Dr. Keber's creative manner.

**LAHS MEETING, August 21, 1997, 7:30 P.M.
HAYNES AUDITORIUM, IDA HILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
DUTCH TREAT SUPPER, 6:00 P.M.**

Patricia Barefoot will present the program which concerns Barrington, the Amos family, and her search for "roots". Patricia's mother's people helped settle McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden counties. Her talk will be based on her personal research, most of which hasn't been printed, and will cover topics such as the Barrington Ferry, Post Road, the sand hills in western McIntosh County, and the Amos family history spanning more than a century in this area.

Patricia Barefoot was born to Sam and Marie Joyner Cofer in the old Brunswick hospital, raised on St. Simons Island, and now lives on Brunswick Quarantine Station at the entrance to the port of Brunswick. She has maintained a life-long interest in coastal history due primarily to the influence of her paternal grandmother, Ruby Ray Cofer; and her fourth grade teacher, Lloyd Young Flanders.

Patricia works for the Department of the Interior, National Park Service and recently received her 10 year service pin. She has been at Fort Frederica since September 1987. Patricia has many diverse interests and does freelance writing. Her focus at this time is on waterfront history.

**SPECIAL INTEREST:
HISTORIC McINTOSH COUNTY AFGHAN**

LAHS has commissioned Linda Hawks to design and have woven a Historic McIntosh County Afghan. A picture of the Afghan and a miniature woven Afghan will be available for obtaining orders in the Fall. The Afghan will sell for \$50.00 each, this is a major money raising project for LAHS. The Afghans ordered in the Fall will be available prior to the 1997 holidays.

"A Pastoral Scene On The Ogeechee Canal In 1888"

This beautiful commemorative print (13 1/2" x 20") is from the original painting by local artist John McClelland. This is a limited edition print (1000 in the series) and each is signed and numbered.

These prints are being sold to raise funds for the restoration of the canal.

MAIL CHECKS TO:	Savannah Ogeechee Canal Society	Print	\$40.00
	681 Fort Argyle Road	S/H	8.00
	Savannah, Georgia 31419	<u>Tax</u>	<u>2.40</u>
		Total	

\$50.40

LAHS encourages your support for the Savannah Ogeechee Canal Society.

FORT KING GEORGE HISTORIC SITE

July 4 11-4 pm Cannons Across the Marsh
Celebrate the Fourth by visiting Ft. King George and observe the firing of 18th century artillery pieces. Visitors can learn of the 18th century artillery drill and the skills that were involved. Demonstrations will be given on the hour. Refresh yourself after the program with a cool piece of complimentary watermelon. As a special treat, see the fort and the artillery display from the river in a canoe.

August 23 & 24 Sat. 11-4 pm, Sun. 2-4 pm GUALE: THE SPANISH ENCOUNTER
The 1655 mission province of Guale represented a 17th century Indian society that had formed under Spanish colonization on the Georgia Coast. On Saturday, Native American demonstrations will be presented highlighting this time period as well as other aspects of the southeastern Indian culture on the Georgia Coast. On Sunday, there will be a special symposium featuring Dr. John Worth, who will discuss the Spanish missions of the Georgia Coast including Santo Domingo de Talaje mission located on the site of Ft. King George. Seating will be limited so reservations will be required.

.....*LIVING ON THE GEORGIA TIDEWATER*

William G. Haynes, Jr. relates the following --

The Dent family of Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation and the Haynes family of Ashantilly were devoted friends. In the early nineteen twenties, the road and bridges were completed across the Altamaha Delta which made the travel between these two homes more relaxed.

The Haynes family at Ashantilly consisted of William G. and Laura Lee Grant Haynes and their two daughters, Frances and Anne Lee, eleven and twelve years older than their young son, Bill.

Gratz Dent was the Agricultural Agent in Chatham County. He suggested

a dairy to his widowed mother Miriam Cohen Dent and his two sisters, Miriam Gratz Dent and Ophelia Troup Dent. Miss Miriam assumed the business head of the dairy which the Dents operated very successfully until the mid nineteen forties.

Miss Miriam was a great admirer of Laura Haynes, and considered Frances her best friend. Miss Miriam delighted in reciting the "ORAL HISTORY" of her family which she learned from her grandmother Ophelia Troupe of New Hope Plantation. Young Bill Haynes was inspired to write the following which was based on Miss Miriam's stories. It was published in 1966 in "McIntosh County Georgia" by William G. Haynes, Jr. and Charles M. Williamson--Text by Bessie Lewis--Designed by the Ashantilly Press and Printed at The Darien News .

A LAND OF WATERWAYS Made for boating and fishing

In McIntosh County, with its beautiful long shoreline indented by tidewater rivers and bays--all navigable-- plus the Altamaha River, the Sapelo and the South Newport, boating must always be a major activity. Time was when a boat of some sort was a necessity as a means of transportation for both passenger and cargo. The planters early developed the art of boat building, and their slim, dugout canoes, manned by Negro oarsmen in livery, passed swiftly up and down the waterways, carrying guest from plantation to plantation or to the towns. Some of the dugouts were developed for speed alone, and their crews trained to this end. Boat races were the order of the day, with some of the finest of the craft competing. A lady of this early period of the county, tells of her trip to Charleston in an eight oared plantation galley, having only a small cabin on it to protect them from the weather.

Dugouts no longer travel the rivers and bays of McIntosh, but boating and boat racing gain in popularity. Today speedboats travel along any highway or road in the area, their destination-any one of the marinas on the coast.

There they are put into the water. Boat races are scheduled regularly, and annual events have been inaugurated. One of these is the Bobby Townsend Race, to be held annually in honor of the late Bobby Townsend of Eulonia, who was an ardent devotee of boating racing.