

The Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter June 2000

LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2000-2001 OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

President	Ed Meyers	<u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2000 - 2002</u>
Vice-President	Linda Hawk	Lou Nell Gibson
Secretary	Ann Baggett	Bob Hawkins
Treasurer	Honey Fanning	Ellie Legg
Past-President	Buddy Sullivan	Myrtle Newberry
<u>COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN</u>		<u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1999 - 2001</u>
Scholarship	Linda Hawk	Dyson Flanders
Cemetery	Mattie Gladstone	Constance Johnson
Field Trips	Berkeley Minor	Jeanne Klippel
Membership	Jeanne Klippel	Don McClain
Programs	Everett Moriarty & Howard Klippel	<u>Director Emeritus</u> - William G. Haynes, Jr.
Publicity	Myrtle Newberry	

Your contribution to any of these committees is welcome. Please contact the committee chairman.

Lower Altamaha Historical Society - May 1, 2000 - April 30, 2001

Annual Dues: Individual \$10; Student \$5.00; Family \$15; Lifetime \$250

Please remit your dues to LAHS, P.O. Box 1405, Darien, Ga. 31305, for 2000 - 2001.

Welcome, Alfred W. Jones, III as Lifetime member of LAHS.

The Sapelo Lighthouse Silhouette went on sale at the May meeting for \$28. One dollar of the proceeds will go to the Lighthouse fund. It will be available at our meetings as well as the Sapelo Visitor's Center. Checks should be made payable to LAHS regardless of point of purchase.

LAHS MEETING, JUNE 15, 2000, 7:00 P.M. - ST. ANDREW'S PARISH HOUSE
HOSPITALITY: Dinah Jackson, Everett Moriarty, Harriet Roberson, Jan Schulte
DUTCH TREAT SUPPER, 5:45 P.M. at B & J PIZZA

"Historic Preservation Progress in Brunswick Georgia" will be the program presented by Ernie Craft and Jerry Spencer of Brunswick. Ernie will discuss the early years of Old Town Brunswick Preservation Association and the beginnings of historic preservation in Brunswick. Jerry will show slides and discuss the current status of historic preservation and downtown revitalization.

Ernie Craft is Past president of Old Town Brunswick Preservation Association. He conducts tours of student groups in Brunswick's Historic District, and is Chairman of Old City Hall Restoration Committee. After being graduated from University of Georgia, Ernie worked as a teacher, counselor and as an administrator in State government. Ernie and Joy Craft have lived in Brunswick for many years. Their contributions to the community and others has always been outstanding.

Jerry Spencer A.S.L.A., Landscape Architect, is the current president of Old Town Brunswick Preservation Association. He is also Chairman of Downtown Development Authority's "Design Team" for which he has written reports on Parks and Squares of Downtown Brunswick, Proposed Sidewalk Improvements in the Historic District, Proposed Improvements for Hanover Square. Jerry is Landscape architect for the Sea Island Company where he has worked for thirteen years. Before moving to Glynn County, Jerry lived in Savannah. He worked at the Planning Commission for three years and was in private practice for sixteen years. Jerry Spencer earned degrees in landscape architecture from Louisiana State University and Harvard University.

LAHS MEETING, JULY 20, 2000, 7:00 P.M.
SAPELO ISLAND VISITORS CENTER, MERIDIAN
POT LUCK PICNIC SUPPER, 7:00 P.M.
LAHS Coordinator: Ellie Legg

Fellowship Picnic Supper for LAHS members and guest. Bring a dish that will serve about eight people that does not require a knife for eating. There are not enough picnic tables for all of us. LAHS will furnish sweet and unsweet tea and all of the paper products.

Fellowship and socializing will be the fare for the evening. There is no program planned.

LAHS Board of Directors Meeting, August 17, 2000 – 4:30 P.M. – St. Andrew's Parish House

LAHS MEETING, AUGUST 17, 2000, 7:00 P.M. – ST. ANDREW'S PARISH HOUSE
HOSPITALITY: Ann Baggett, Honey Fanning, Linda Hawk, Ellie Legg
DUTCH TREAT SUPPER, 5-45 P.M. at B & J PIZZA

"Sewanee: More Than a River – A Brief History of the University of the South" will be the program presented by the Rev. Robert E. Reese and Paul Salter. These two proud graduates of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, will share the story of this great institution.

After being graduated from The University of the South, Robert E. Reese earned his Masters of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Va. Dr. Reese is the Rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Darien.

Paul Salter was graduated from the University of the South with a BA in History. He is a Vice-President of the Coastal Bank of Georgia in Brunswick.

Living on the Georgia Tidewater – William G. Haynes, Jr. (1908) of Ashantilly continues to be a guiding force and inspiration to Darien and McIntosh County as he has been for more than seventy years. Ashantilly (*The Old Tabby*) and The Altamaha River have been the driving forces of this man. Below is a sketch of Bill Haynes living, working and contributing on the Georgia Tidewater.

Ashantilly was built by Thomas Spalding on the Georgia mainland no later than 1820. Thomas Spalding of Sapelo Island needed Ashantilly as a convenience to his business holdings in Darien and throughout Georgia. Spalding was born in the town of Frederica, on St. Simons Island. He inherited property from his mother, Margery McIntosh, granddaughter of John McIntosh Mohr, leader of the Scottish military company defending the Georgia Colony. Spalding named Ashantilly after an ancestral home in County Perth, Scotland. The house was constructed of tabby, a mixture of lime, sand, shell and water. After Spalding's death in 1851, his son Charles abandoned Ashantilly because of the expense of repairs and maintenance. It was 1870 when Charles sold some of the property for new home construction. The Wilcox family purchased *The Old Tabby* in 1870. They rebuilt the house and made several changes. A hip roof with

wood shingles was added, while the classical columns and marble flagging were removed.

The Haynes family moved to Ashantilly in 1918. The Haynes family, William, Sr. and wife nee Laura Grant, from Atlanta, Frances, Ann Lee and Bill. It were moving from Columbia, S. C. to Darien. The two older girls had attended South Carolina Women's College in Columbia. Bill was 10 years old. Frances the older sister taught school at Atlanta Girls High, then went on to Florida State College for Women in Tallahassee, where she became a research librarian. Ann Lee taught school in Savannah for several years before going to New York City to pursue a career in Commercial Art. Bill attended school in Darien. After being graduated from Darien High School in 1927 he went to New York City to study Art. He worked at the New York City Public Library, attended Art School and lived with Ann Lee. The conservative

transportation between Darien and New York in 1927 was by Steamer Ship from Savannah. Bill remembers that first trip to the City. Ann Lee met him at the dock.

In 1936, Bill returned to Darien and Ashantilly to contemplate which career in art he could follow that would bring him back to the Georgia Tidewater which he loved so much. That year he designed and painted, in tempera, panels for the back drop in the Darien Exhibit at the Savannah Fair of 1936. One of these panels hangs, today in the Haynes Auditorium of the Ida Hilton Public Library.

A fire gutted the interior of Ashantilly in 1937. The family moved to temporary housing. It was 1939 before restoration began. Bill Haynes located and purchased doors, mantels, and other period pieces in salvage yards and from Antique dealers in Savannah and Charleston. Using a local carpenter, Bill was able to slowly bring the house back to a livable condition. The Crown molding in the living room was accomplished by Bill Haynes, by pulling a profile stencil over wet plaster. This technique was done at ceiling height. The formal garden to the north of the house was designed and planted by Bill Haynes during this same period. Restoration efforts on Ashantilly were interrupted when Bill Haynes was drafted into the Army in 1941. He served at Fort Stewart, Georgia and in New Guinea. The people and the landscape of New Guinea were recorded by Haynes in many small watercolor paintings.

In 1945, after World War II, Bill returned to New York. He entered Cooper Union Art School. It was here at Cooper Union that he was introduced to the art of typography and the printing press. The art of the printed page with the selection of type, arrangement, color and illustrated with his own wood cuts became the creative way in which Haynes would use his art to express himself. With this new expression followed the dream of Ashantilly Press in Darien, Georgia. The summer months were free from school and Bill returned home to continue work on Ashantilly. In the summer of 1946, Bill found the little Hand Press in Riceboro on which he would later print his first book, *Anchored Yesterdays*. He also purchased his first types. When he returned to New York, he acquired more types, new, and second hand in very good condition, hardly used at all. They were sent

home for future printing. The Cooper Union course ended in 1948. He met Natalie Erdman. He worked at a small advertising agency in an on the job training experience. He resumed his job at the New York Public Library. In 1951, Bill went to work with the designers and typographers that were publishing the "Frick Catalogue". He was chosen as an inexperienced artist who they could train to do this perfection work. The knowledge and techniques learned here for the next three years would only add to the art and perfection of the books and ephemera of Ashantilly Press over the next four decades.

Bill and Natalie married in 1952. In 1955, they moved to Ashantilly and created Ashantilly Press. A Fort King George Map was drawn by Haynes at the request of Miss Bessie Lewis. Bill and Natalie printed the map by silk screen in five colors. This was printed in the south room of Ashantilly. The first book, *Anchored Yesterdays* was printed on the little hand press, also in the south room in 1956. Ashantilly Press evolved with the purchase of the large Letter Press, more type and the building and remodeling of the print shop. The weekly *Worship Service Program* for the First Presbyterian Church was printed on Ashantilly Press for thirty years. Haynes was a successful business man in McIntosh. His contributions to the community are untold. In 1979 he was the primary force in establishing the *Lower Altamaha Historical Society*. For many years *The Altamaha Echoes* was published at Ashantilly Press. Bill Haynes, hand set the type and designed the *Echoes* for LAHS.

When Bill and Natalie returned from New York, Bill's mother had recently died. Ann Lee was living at Ashantilly and later Frances returned home. The deaths of William, Sr., Frances, and Natalie left Bill and Ann Lee at Ashantilly. Before Ann Lee's death, Bill and Ann Lee donated the house and property to Ashantilly Center, Inc., to create a job training and community center for the people of Coastal Georgia. William G Haynes, Jr. is an active Director Emeritus of Lower Altamaha Historical Society and an active participant of Ashantilly Center, Inc. He lives at Ashantilly. He will be ninety-two years old in August, 2000.

SAPALO ISLAND

National Estuarine Research Reserve

Sapelo Island enables visitors to see virtually every facet of a barrier island's natural community, from the diversified wildlife of the forested uplands, to the vast expanses of salt marsh and the complex beach and dunes systems. The Visitor Center, located near the mainland ferry dock brings to life both the natural and cultural history of Sapelo, while guided tours of the island enable visitors to experience the African-American community of Hog Hammock, the University of Georgia Marine Institute, the Reynolds Mansion and Sapelo Island's 1820 Lighthouse.

SAPALO ISLAND VISITORS CENTER 912 437 3224 in Meridian is open daily except Mondays. This interpretive center for Sapelo has much to offer. Reservations for the four hour regular tours of the Island on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays and the six hour extended tour on the last Tuesday of each month are made here. Sapelo Island Visitors Center also has the information on special group tours and School Field Trips and privately owned and operated opportunities and activities at Sapelo Island. A Gift Shop which includes Books, Art Objects, Pictures and Posters and wearing apparel is available at the Visitors Center.

SAPALO ISLAND NATIONAL
ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE
P.O. Box 15, Sapelo Island, Ga. 31327
Phone 912 483 2251, FAX 483 2141

The SINERR is managed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, and is administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

FORT KING GEORGE STATE HISTORICAL SITE
P.O. Box 711-Darien, Ga. 31305—912-437-4770

ALTAMAHA CANOE EXCURSIONS
June 12th - Honeygall Creek (Intermediate)

CANNONS ACROSS THE MARSH
Tuesday, July 4, 2000 - 10 am - 4 pm
Bring the kids out for a day of fun and learning. The day will feature programs on children's leisure and work activities in Colonial America. The kids will get to play colonial games, go on a treasure hunt, eat refreshments, shoot blow gun, enjoy a nature program, and win prizes. It's an event for all ages that will focus entirely on the fun, enjoyment, and learning of children.

LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1405

Darien, Georgia 31305

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. The Society extends a hearty welcome to all.

LAHS Officers & Board of Directors, 2000 - 2001

President -	Ed Meyers
Vice-President -	Linda Hawck
Secretary	Ann Baggett
Treasurer	Honey Fanning
Past President -	Buddy Sullivan

Lou Nell Gibson	Dyson Flanders
Bob Hawkins	Constance Johnson
Myrtle Newberry	Jeanne Klippel
Ellie Legg	Don McClain
Board Member, Emeritus	William G. Haynes, Jr.



Darien, Georgia 31305
P.O. Box 1405