# The Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter April 2004

LAHS Meeting, April 15, 2004 - 7:00 pm - St. Andrew's Parish House Dutch Treat Supper, 5:45 pm at Skipper's Fish Camp

"Above the Fall Line, 'The Trail from White Pine Cabin" will be the program, presented by the author Amy Blackmarr Blackmarr writes about the natural world with a self-deprecating wit and an uncommon grace. In Above the Fall Line, she begins with the full-sensory observation skills and creative integrity that nature demands

Amy Blackmarr is a South Georgia native who lived in the Midwest for twenty years. She is best known for her nature essays set in the rustic houses she lived in. Her essays have been broadcast on Georgia. Public Radio Network and Kansas City's NPR affiliate. She is a Madison Self Fellow with a Ph.D. in English from the University of Kansas and presently lives in the North Georgia mountains

The election of Officers for 2004-05 and four Board of Directors for 2004-06 will be held at the LAHS Meeting on April 15 In addition to the slate of Officers and Board of Directors submitted by the 2004 Nominating Committee, additional nominations for these positions may be accepted from the floor. Nominations will be accepted for any LAHS member in good standing that has given their consent for the nomination.

The 2004 Nominating Committee Myrtle Newberry, Peyton Lingle, Jeanne Klippel, Oscar Brinkmann submit the following slate of persons for LAHS consideration.

OFFICERS 2004 2005

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004 - 2006

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President Vice - President

Secretary

Peyton Lingle **Bob Hawkins** Betty Cleveland Harry Clark **Dyson Flanders** Myrtle Newberry

Treasurer Laura Nel Kaye Traer

LAHS Field Trip - Saturday, May 8, 2004 Two hours up the Altamaha, Guided Narrated Trip by Captain Fendig

Cost is \$20.00 per person, payable by LAHS April meeting. The Boat will accommodate 30 people. There are facilities on board. The Water Taxi will leave from Downtown Darien Dock. Departure times will be set in April. A late morning departure is anticipated. Snacks & water may be brought on board. If there is interest, a meal will be planned at Skipper's Fish Camp, after the trip.

Information and questions: Jean Hawkins Bank - 437 7178 Home - 832 6588

#### CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY APRIL 26

For several years, LAHS member, Everett Moriarty has honored, remembered and recognized the Confederate Veterans of McIntosh County. Each year on April 26, Confederate Memorial Day, a basket of flowers is placed on the Confederate Monument at the McIntosh County Courthouse, and over 120 Confederate Flags are placed on the graves of McIntosh County Confederate Veterans. Some of the cemeteries where you may observe these flags are: St. Andrews, Ebenezer, Upper Mill, Holland, Plum Orchard, Young Island, McIntosh Family, Baillie Plantation. Reynolds Chapel, Robson Family, and others.

## **Buddy Sullivan Scholarship**

LAHS will award a \$1000 scholarship for College to a McIntosh Academy student. Applications will be accepted until April 15, 2004. This scholarship is also available to current College Students from McIntosh County. Applications are available at Ida Hilton Public Library and McIntosh Academy

Mail Applications by April 15, 2004: Ann Baggett 95 Belvedere Court - Townsend, Georgia 31331 MEMBERSHIP: Jeanne Klippel, chairman

LAHS needs your continuing support. Projects such as speakers' honorariums, the Buddy Sullivan Scholarship Fund, Historical Markers, postage and printing, need your financial help in the way of dues. We value your membership.

LAHS operates on a fiscal year May 1 to April 30. Dues for 2004–2005 should be paid in May. An increase in dues is effective May 1, 2004.

Individual -\$15.00 annual, Student - \$5.00 annual, Family - \$20.00 annual, Corporate - \$100.00 annual, Individual Lifetime -\$250.00

Mail dues to: LAHS -P. O. Box 1405 --- Darien, Georgia 31305

"The Burning of Darien" Historical Marker was unveiled on the lawn of Darien City Hall, September, 2001
The marker was made possible by The Georgia Historical Society and The Lower Altamaha Historical Society
The Burning of Darien

On June 11, 1863 the scaport of Darien was vandalized and burned by Federal forces stationed on nearby St. Simons Island. The town was largely deserted, most of its 500 residents having sought refuge inland. Lost were public buildings, businesses, churches and most private residences. Conducting the raid were units comprised of among the first African-American troops to serve the Union cause, the 54th Massachusetts Volunteers under Col. Robert G Shaw, and the 2th South Carolina Volunteers under Col. James Montgomery. The burning of Darien, undefended and of fittle strategic importance, was one of the most controversial events of the Civil War.

LAHS Board of <u>Directors Meeting</u>, <u>May 20, 2004</u>, 4:30 P.M. –

St. Andrew's Parish House

First LAHS Board Meeting for 2004 – 2005. LAHS members, are always welcome

LAHS Meeting, May 20, 2004 – 7:00 pm – St. Andrew's Parish House Dutch Treat Supper, 5:45pm at Skipper's Fish Camp

"Anna The Letters of a St. Simons Island Plantation Mistress, 1817 - 1859" will be the program, presented by Melanie Pavich-Lindsay the editor of these letters. Anna Matilda Page King (1798 - 1859) was the wife of Thomas Butler King, a frequently absent slaveholder and public figure. Anna was the de facto head of their Sea Island plantation, "Retreat". Written in the heyday of King Cotton, the letters of Anna Matilda Page King contain much of what makes a good novel. Money, politics, love, pain, power, death, honor, and longing are ongoing themes. This volume collects more than 150 letters to her husband, children, parents and others.

Melanie Pavich-Lindsay is a doctoral student in the Social Foundation of Education Department at the University of Georgia. She holds a M.A. History from Clemson University, Clemson, SC, B.A. History from Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA, Teaching certificate, School of the Hartford Ballet, Hartford, CT.

BOOKS ON THE BLUFF will have books available at the meeting.

Living on the Georgia Tidewater -In 1875 a former slave acquired an acre of land situated on the OLD UPPER STEAM SAW MILL ROAD in McIntosh County. In 1999, the Great Grandson of this slave acquired a portion of this land and gave it the name of Hammond's Cove. William Hammond Andrew Collins, PD, D.Ph., the Great Grandson of Cain Hammond (1820 - ca.1903), tells of the evolution of this property and his family.

Dr. William Collins has done extensive research on his family and the property where he now lives. The location was clarified and interpreted by the late Attorney Charles Stebbins as being the present Old River Road. The address of Hammond's Cove is 804 Old River Road, Darien, Ga. Old River Road begins at 7th Street in Darien as Houston Street on Cathead Creek ends. The road runs five blocks Northwest, then curves at the Upper Mill Cemetery, and goes West through Mentionville. Thus, the Hammond Property is the first plot of land on this old Indian trail which was made into a road in 1739 when Lieutenant Robert Baillie and the Scottish Highlanders first marched over the road on their way to invade Spanish Florida.

Cain Hammond, born a slave in Georgia 1820, died in McIntosh County ca. 1903. At his death, Cain Hammond was residing on the property known today as Hammond's Cove His first child of record was a female named Adelia, born in slavery, Liberty County in 1840, died as Adelia Hammond Smith in Jacksonville, Florida, in 1950. Just after the War, circa 1865, Cain married, Betsy Waters (1840—ca. 1898). Cain and Betsy had eight children. The oldest daughter of these children was Clara (circa 1870—1934). Clara married John Williams. This couple's first child, Sara, was the first grandchild of Cain and Betsy.

Pride in his family and in personal ownership of land is shown when in 1899, Cain deeded one lot of his Old River Road property to Clara Hammond Williams (Mrs. John

Williams) as Trustee for his first grandchild, Sara Williams.

In 1902, Cain Hammond sold one-half acre of the property to his daughter Clara for the sum of fifty dollars (\$50.00). When Cain passed away, it is assumed that the remainder of the property was left to his eight children, with Clara as executor of his estate. She paid the taxes on all of the property until her death in 1934. Her daughter, Sara (Mrs. Isaac Morrison) then assumed that duty.

Sara Morrison started selling off lots on the Old River Road property in 1950. It would be forty nine years before William Collins would acquire this property in Darien that his Great

Grandfather had first purchased one hundred and twenty four years ago.

William Hammond Andrew Collins is the grandson of Cain and Betsy Hammond's youngest daughter, Mary Hammond Wright - Thomas. He was graduated from Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida, with a doctor of pharmacy in 1971. After purchasing the property in 1999, Collins added on to the house; changing it from 887 square feet to square feet.

Dr. Collins is a member of LAHS, he lives at:

Hammond's Cove, A Landmark in the City of Darien, GA. since 1875.

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#### SAPELO ISLAND National Estuarine Research Reserve

Sapelo Island enables visitors to see virtually every facet of a barrier islands's natural community, from the diversified wildlife of the forested uplands, to the vast expanses of salt marsh and the complex beach and dones 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.

SAPELO ISLAND VISITORS CENTER 912 437 3224 in Mendian 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. A Gift Shop which includes Books, Art Objects, Pictures and Posters and wearing apparel in available at the Visitors Center.

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)

### LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Corporate & Life Memberships

Corp Sapelo National Bank, William Parker, President The Book Shop, Inc., Harold & Virginia Hicks Coastal Georgia Historical Society

"The Lodge", Little St. Simons Island

Life: Muriel Bell
Mrs. Caroline B. Davis
Alfred W. Jones
John Rechling
Everett Moriarty
Andre & Laura Nel

Darien Telephone Co. Gus & Marg Hallum Chris & Ward Milner John & Mary Dean Enterprise Rent-A-Car FORT KING GEORGE STATE HISTORICAL SITE

P.O. Box 711-Darien, Ga 31305------ 912 437 4770 Internet Site: (search) Fort King George

### LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1405 - Darien, Georgia 11305

LAHS Officers & Board of Directors, 2002-2003

President Dinah Jackson Vice-President Dyson Flanders Secretary Betty Cleveland Treasurer Effic Logg

Carolyn Baker Ann Baggett
Bob Hawkins Oscar Brinckmann
Peyton Lingle Howard Klippel
Myrtle Newberry Kelly Spratt

Past-President Ed Meyer

Director Emeritus - Buddy Sullivan

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Jim & Barbara Bruce P.O. Box 20652 St. Simons Ga. 31522



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P. O. Box 1405 Darien, Georgia 31305

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