Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society Annual Report

Lower Altamaha Historical Society has again finished a successful year. Our membership has grown by at least one person or family each month and there have been numerous visitors attend our meetings.

Nine programs have been presented and enjoyed by all present. In July 2003 we met at the Sapelo Visitor Center for our annual picnic. There were around fifty in attendance and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. October was "Show and Tell" month, brought back by popular demand. There were many interesting items and tales shared by all.

Our annual Christmas party was held at Belvedere Island Clubhouse. The warm atmosphere and wonderful food added to the holiday spirit among friends. Of course Everett's eggnog stole the show.

LAHS sponsored a lecture series by Buddy Sullivan in the fall. We all learned about our beautiful McIntosh County and its people through the years.

There are plans to apply next spring for another historical marker in Darien. Our yearly commitment to Habitat for Humanity was accomplished in May. LAHS members painted for Habitat. This current Habitat home is dedicated to the memory of Tom Chambers. Tom Chambers was a special friend of LAHS.

May 11,2004 a scholarship of \$1,000 was presented to a deserving graduate of McIntosh County Academy. Davina Desdune will have our help in attending Georgia State College in Atlanta. There were six highly qualified students who competed for the scholarship.

Field trips have also been a highlight of the year and Bob and Jean Hawkins have done a superb job of planning. Last spring a group went to Charleston on tour which included visiting the H. L. Hunley, the first Confederate Submarine. Fall of 2003 a trip was taken to Sapelo and the group was served a wonderful low country meal. This May a number of members took a cruise up the Altamaha River.

Georgia Days is sponsored by the Georgia Historical Society. In February 2004 our society again supported and participated in Georgia Days. There was a reenactment of Oglethorpe's arrival to visit the Scots in Darien. In the evening a Scottish influenced dinner was served at Ft. King George. Two of our members helped with the serving of this meal and Everett along with Ken Akins put all the plans together.

May LAHS continue to grow in numbers and may it continue presenting and preserving history.

> Thank You, Dinah Jackson

LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2004-2005 OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

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Lower Altamaha Historical Society - May 1, 2004 - April 30, 2005 Annual Dues: Individual \$15; Family \$ 20; Lifetime \$250; Corporate \$100 annual

BUDDY SULLIVAN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Buddy Sullivan Scholarship Award, \$1000, is given yearly to a McIntosh County student by Lower Altamaha Historical Society The recipient this year is Davina Desdune, daughter of Jeffery Desdune of Meridian. The presentation was made at the McIntosh County Academy Scholarship Dinner on May 11, 2004. Davina will attend Georgia State University, Atlanta. There were six highly qualified students who competed for the scholarship.

> LAHS MEETING, JUNE 17, 2004, 7:00 P.M. ST. ANDREW'S PARISH HOUSE Dutch Treat Supper, 5:45 P.M. at Skipper's Fish Camp

"Hello , Goodbye, I Love You: The Story of Aloha, A Guide Dog for the Blind" will be the program, presented by Pamela Bauer Mueller. This heartwarming story depicts the love journey between a puppy raiser, a guide puppy, and a visually impaired woman. The unconditional love and trust between a boy and his dog enable Aloha to become the guide she was bred to be. Pamela will also present "Neptune's Honor". In 1862, Neptune Small brought the body of his master, from Fredericksburg, Virginia, home to St. Simons Island, Georgia. Henry Lord King of Retreat Plantation was buried at Christ Church. Years later Neptune was buried at "Retreat Slave Cemetery"

Pamela Bauer Mueller is a children's book author who lives on St. Simons Island. She was raised in Oregon and graduated from Lewis and Clark College in Portland. She worked as a flight attendant for Pan American Airlines. before moving to Mexico City, where she lived for eighteen years, raising two daughters in a bicultural, bilingual environment. After returning to the United States, Pamela worked for twelve years as a U. S. Customs inspector. She served six years in San Diego and the was selected for a foreign assignment in Vancouver. British Columbia, Canada.

Books will be available at the meeting

LAHS MEETING, JULY 15, 2004, 5:30 P.M. SAPELO ISLAND VISITORS CENTER, MERIDIAN POT LUCK PICNIC SUPPER, 5:30 P.M.

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. LAHS will furnish Fried Chicken, Shrimp, drinks, paper products.

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

LAHS Board of Directors Meeting, AUGUST 19, 2004, 4:30 P.M. -

St. Andrew's Parish House LAHS members, are always welcome

LAHS MEETING, AUGUST 19, 2004 ST. ANDREW'S PARISH HOUSE Dutch Treat Supper, 5 45 P.M. at Skipper's Fish Camp

"Windows To The Deep" will be the program, presented by Margaret Olsen. This is a power point slide presentation of the experiences of Margaret Olsen while on board the RV Atlantis. This research cruise was to Blake Ridge and the Cape Fear Diapir which are approximately 350 miles off the coast of Northern Georgia and South Carolina. It is called "Windows to the Deep" because this cruise investigated known and searched for new Methane Hydrate Seep sites which scientists say give them a "Window" into what is going on inside the earth. Mrs. Olsen will also show samples of giant mussels, clams, rocks, and mud taken by Alvin from the sea floor from depths of 2700 to 3600 meters.

Margaret Olsen is a veteran classroom teacher. After thirty one years in the classroom she took her present position of Education Specialist for the Southeast Center for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence. Her office is at the UGA Marine Education Center and Aquarium in Savannah. Her husband, Mickey Olsen, grew up on Sapelo Island. Mickey and Margaret Olsen live in Darien.

LAHS MEETING, SEPTEMBER 16, 2004 ST. ANDREW'S PARISH HOUSE Dutch Treat Supper, 5:45 pm at Skippers Fish House

"When Jefferson Dined Alone: An Evening With Thomas Jefferson" the life and legacy of one of our most enigmatic founding fathers, will be the program, presented by Stan Deaton. From his home at Monticello, to his authorship of the Declaration of Independence, to his relationship with slavery and Sally Hemings, Thomas Jefferson remains a controversial and fascinating figure. This lecture explores the multi-faceted life and the often-debated legacy of America's third president and his place in contemporary American life.

Stan Deaton is the Director of Publications for the Georgia Historical Society in Savannah and the Assistant Editor & Book Review Editor for the Society's scholarly journal, the Georgia Historical Quarterly. A Georgia native, he holds a bachelors degree in journalism and a masters degree in history from the University of Georgia and a Ph.D. in history from the University of Florida. Stan is an active member of the historical profession, as lecturer, book reviewer, and writer. In his spare time, he loves to exercise, read, and hike. He has hiked along the Continental Divide in the Rocky Mountains, run the Peachtree Road Race in Atlanta and the Savannah River Bridge Run and has hiked all of the Appalachian Trail in Georgia. Stan is currently revising his first book manuscript, Revolutionary Charleston.

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 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.

SAPELO 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. A Gift Shop which includes Books, Art Objects, Pictures and Posters and wearing apparel is 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)

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FORT KING GEORGE STATE HISTORICAL SITE

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

Cannons Across the Marsh

Saturday, July 3 11am - 4pm

Celebrate America's birthday at the fort, Artillery drills will be given all day on the hour with musket drills being demonstrated every half hour. Learn what it took to be a Revolutionary soldier from Georgia in one of our nation's most pivotal eras.

LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1405 - Darien, Georgia 31305

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