

Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

October 2008

*"The Mission of the Lower Altamaha Historical Society is to Preserve and Disseminate
the History of McIntosh County."*

LAHS Meeting, Thursday, October 16, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

**Fort King George Historic Site
Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza**

For those members who have never been to LAHS Show and Tell, you are in for a treat. Bring in an historical treasure, a specific item, a family picture (childhood memory), or just something you found around the coast. We've exhibited everything from furniture to weapons, antique boat fittings, old Bibles, dolls, and rare pictures. This is a relaxed way to meet each other and share our treasures and interests. It is always a popular event.

LAHS Meeting, Thursday, November 20, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

**Fort King George Historic Site
Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza**

Christy Crisp ("*Five Things You May Not Know About James Oglethorpe*") returns with a new program, originally scheduled in August and cancelled because of tropical storm Fay. Christy's topic is "*A Small Town On A Sand Hill: Savannah In The Eighteenth Century.*" Focusing largely on Oglethorpe's city plan and its expansion throughout the eighteenth century, this PowerPoint presentation uses modern photos as well as maps and images from the collections of the Georgia Historical Society to trace the development of Georgia's First City from its founding in 1773 through the American Revolution and the years immediately afterward.

Ms. Crisp is Program Manager for the Georgia Historical Society. Much of her time at GHS is involved in managing the Georgia Historical Marker Program and statewide Affiliate Chapter Programs. She has a bachelor's degree in international relations from Stamford University in Birmingham, Alabama, and a master's degree in history from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. A Georgia native, Christy grew up in Conyers. Before coming to the GHS in 2003 she worked for two years in historical interpretation at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello in Charlottesville, Virginia.

THANK YOU - As has been the custom for several years now, when the newest HABITAT house was ready to have its interior walls painted, members of LAHS met at the site and got the job done. Thanks so much to all of those who gave their time to do this important work in our community on September 20, 2008.

LAHS Christmas Covered Dish Dinner Party
Wednesday, December 10, 2008, 5:30 p.m.
Belvedere Island Plantation Clubhouse

The beautiful Belvedere Island Plantation Clubhouse will be the setting for our annual 2008 Christmas celebration. Howard and Jeanne Klippel will be our hosts for the evening. LAHS will provide the entrée, table set-up, and drinks. Everett Moriarty's famous eggnog will start the festivities. Signup sheets and maps will be available at the October and November meetings, so be thinking about your contribution to the menu. Call the Klippels (912-832-3318) for information, directions, or requests for transportation.



LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, January 15, 2008, 4:00 p.m.
Fort King George Historic Site
LAHS members are always welcome.

LAHS Meeting, Thursday, January 15, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site
Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza

Sudy Leavy returns to give a program on Caroline Miller, author of the 1934 Pulitzer Prize book, *"Lamb In His Bosom."* A native of Griffin, Georgia, Ms. Leavy has lived on the Georgia coast for more than forty years. One of her abiding interests has been the history of the area. Inspired by her graduate work which led to an M.A. in English from Georgia Southern University in 1998, she has assembled a series of talks on subjects ranging from overlooked women authors, forgotten literary works and folklore.

Passing through Baxley, Georgia, she was always intrigued by an historical marker which recorded the fact that the novel *"Lamb In His Bosom"* was penned by Caroline Miller while writing at Barnes' drugstore. The marker also records that Miller was the first Georgian to win a Pulitzer Prize for her interpretation of the Wiregrass Country and its inhabitants. Drawn to the south by Miller's novel, northern editors later discovered Margaret Mitchell, which led to the publishing of *"Gone With The Wind."*

Caroline Miller was born in Baxley, Georgia and was the wife of the school superintendent in Baxley. Publishing only two novels, Miller became a forgotten author. With the current interest in women studies, her work has been reevaluated. Likewise, a dedicated cadre of her relatives has continued to keep her name in the forefront. Of interest to coastal residents is her portrayal of Darien as the seaport to which those who lived some sixty miles inland annually made a three-day trek to trade, attend court, and buy provisions.

Ms. Leavy will share aspects of Miller's novel and its pertinence in recording an antebellum view of Darien.

News from the Board of Directors:

- Everett Moriarty is our new Hospitality Chairman. Anyone who wishes to help with hospitality may bring cookies, cake, nuts, or whatever they choose to the meeting whenever they like.
- PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO LAHS BY-LAWS: When the By-Laws were last amended, the terms of the officers were changed from one-year terms to two-year terms. All four officers were then elected the same year. It later seemed inadvisable for all officers to have their terms expire in the same year. Thus, this proposed amendment provides for the terms to be staggered.

The following wording will replace the present Article IV. OFFICERS. Section 2: *“The officers will be elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting from the list of members in good standing. The term of each officer shall be for two years and until a successor is designated. The terms will be staggered, with a President and a Secretary being elected in the even-numbered years, and a Vice-President and a Treasurer being elected in the odd-numbered years. Each of said officers shall serve as and have all powers and privileges of a director during their respective terms of office. In the event a vacancy occurs, the Board of Directors, by majority vote, shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.”*

This amendment will be voted on by the membership at the regular meeting on November 20, 2008



OCTOBER HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS GEORGIA ARCHIVES MONTH. Archives Month has never had any particular significance for LAHS before this year. Now, however, we have our own wonderful ARCHIVES BUILDING/LIBRARY and so we happily celebrate with the rest of the state the preserving of all things of historical significance for future generations, genealogical study, and the general edification of all. We owe a debt of gratitude to many who have helped preserve and protect these items through the years until the time came when we could provide a safe, secure place for them, a place where anyone who wishes may come to study, read, and research all our historical treasures.

Georgia Archives Month gives us the golden opportunity to express our deep and heartfelt thanks to RALPH GILL. He has given LAHS all his mother’s extensive collection of books on genealogy from many areas of the state, written histories of many families in our area, historical papers, scrapbooks of area happenings through past years, and many other items which she had saved throughout her life. Annie Gill was a founding member of LAHS, with an abiding interest in everything that went on in McIntosh and surrounding counties, as well as the people whose lives were interwoven with these happenings. This was a wonderful and generous gift and we are most grateful to Ralph for thinking of us in this regard after his mother died last year. The ANNIE GILL COLLECTION is an important part of the LAHS archives and a living memorial to Annie herself.

The LAHS ARCHIVES BUILDING is open every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is located on the Fort King George Historic Site. A member of the Archives Committee is present each time the building is open. If anyone would like to join the Committee and help with the work of filing, organizing, cataloging, and working at the site, please call Carol Churi at 437-4477.

LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1405 – Darien, GA 31305

www.loweraltamahahistoricalsociety.org

LAHS Officers 2006-2008

President	Harriet Roberson	912-265-6729
Vice-President	Jack Godfrey	912-832-5622
Secretary	Dee Slagle	912-832-3746
Treasurer	Kaye Traer	912-832-5150

2007-2009

Jim Bruce
 Carol Churi
 Mary Evelyn Hoffhaus
 Chris Milner

2008-2010

Martha Carney
 Dan Good
 Betty Ewing
 Carole Williams

Past-President	Peyton Lingle
Director Emeritus	Buddy Sullivan

Committee Chairpersons

Ft. King George	Steven Smith
Membership	Jeanne Klippel
Programs	Howard Klippel
Scholarship	Ann Howard
Field Trips	Jean Hawkins
Altamaha "Echoes"	Carole Williams
Publications/Books	Mary Evelyn Hoffhaus
Historian	Buddy Sullivan
Hospitality	Everett Moriarty
Webmaster	Jim Bruce
Archives	Carol Churi

Life Memberships

Muriel Bell	Gus & Marg Hallman
Marsha Certain	Bill Jones III
Darien Telephone Co.	David Miller
Mrs. Caroline B. Davis	Chris & Ward Milner
John & Mary Dean	Bill & Sherry Minnich
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	Frances Pollard
Lloyd Flanders	John Reehling
Read Gignilliat	Jeff & Kelly Spratt

Honorary Memberships

Mattie Gladstone
 Everett Moriarty
 Myrtle Newberry
 Isabel Mealing
 Lillian Schaitberger

Corporate Memberships:

Sapelo National Bank
 The Book Shop, Inc., Harold
 & Virginia Hicks
 Coastal GA Historical Society
 "The Lodge," Little St. Simons Is

FORT KING GEORGE STATE HISTORIC SITE

P.O. Box 711 – Darien, GA 31305 ---- 912-437-4770

www.gastateparks.org/fortkinggeorge

Living History Programs for students and guests are a daily activity at the Fort. Reenactors allow an eighteenth century experience for the observer.

The Debatable Land Fall Encampment

Saturday, November 8, 2008

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

A wide range of living history presentations will highlight various cultures and people that inhabited our region, long before Georgia was established in 1733. A battle reenactment will take place at 2:00 pm

A Colonial Christmas at Fort King George

Saturday, December 13, 2008

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Join the garrison for a traditional dinner in the enlisted barracks and an evening of colonial-style Yule Tide jollification. \$30.00 dinner. RSVP by December 8.



A message from Jeanne Klippel, Membership Chairman: Please remember that an LAHS membership is a wonderful gift to give to family and friends. It's the greatest bargain around: ten wonderful programs, two parties (July and December) and historic field trips.