

Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

August 2009

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2008-2009

Our support for community ventures included helping McTac (a new local theater arts group) bring the Barter Theater from Virginia to perform in the local schools; having a booth at Darien Days; helping paint the newest Habitat House; celebrating the opening of Darien's new Welcome Center in the mall; attending the dedication of the Art Association's plaque for their building (a plaque we helped fund); and being a part of the support for the city's new Trailhead Center on First Street.

We enjoy and are grateful for our continuing relationship with Fort King George. They are good to us, providing our meeting place and a home for our Archives Building; and I expect our support of them (this year with a contribution toward their Darien Days expenses as well as helping fund sponsorship of their Ceilidh) will continue. Thank you, Steven Smith.

Those who visit our Archives Building/Library live close by and far away (NC, SC, FL, TN, CA). We are making some headway in organizing and cataloging. We continue to be open to the public every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and we could use more volunteer help from our members. Maybe you? We have had some additional donations of materials, and Ralph Gill gave us a copy machine and two fluorescent lights which he also installed. What a guy! Our website, under our webmaster Jim Bruce, does a wonderful job of getting the word out about LAHS. We get lots of questions, orders for books, and genealogical inquiries.

Our programs during the year have been instructional and entertaining . . . in July we heard from the McIntosh County EMA Director, the Commission Chairman, and the Manager about hurricane preparedness and the tornado which visited us in May; and strangely enough, the next month, tropical storm Fay let us know that we should stay home on our meeting night. Our favorite program presenter Buddy Sullivan took us on a lovely stroll through Darien and McIntosh history in September, and "Show and Tell" was great fun in October. Christy Crisp of GHS traced the development of Savannah in November, while December brought our "best ever" Christmas party thanks to our hosts Howard and Jeanne Klippel and our eggnog "chef" Everett Moriarty. In January Sudy Leavy gave us the "scoop" on Caroline Miller, Pulitzer prize-winning author of "*Lamb in His Bosom*," and Maggie Toussaint told us in February about growing up in McIntosh and her new life as a romantic suspense writer. March brought us Glynn Countian Jones Conine, a real knockout as honest Abe Lincoln, followed by a visit from George Washington in April when Jack Ferguson dropped by. Our May meeting was all about swords and firearms when Brad Spear brought lots of his authentic handmade weapons to show us. To round out the year in June, our newest member Ed Cawthon told us about the southern men who joined various units during the Civil War . . . their trials and tribulations.

We learned a little more history as we took a field trip to Parris Island and Beaufort, and we are making a little history ourselves this year by reaching the thirtieth year of our existence. Plans are underway for a gala celebration, and in conjunction with that we will be dedicating our newest historic marker at Ashantilly . . . all to take place in October.

My thanks to the "subs" who filled in when I broke my hip. We also express much gratitude for a job well and faithfully done by Jeanne Klippel who retired as Membership Chairman after more than ten years of service. Special thanks to our "Echoes" editor, Carole Williams, who went "above and beyond" as she did her job all year by long distance. Thanks to all of you who attend meetings, support and participate in the things we do, give of your time and talent, and help us make our organization interesting and friendly. It is a testament to you, and our Program Chairman Howard Klippel, that our membership continues to grow; however, LAHS will not have a president when next June arrives, unless one or more of you is willing to step up and take the role(s) of leadership. Ponder that!!

Harriet Roberson

LAHS MEETING, Thursday, August 20, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m., B&J's Steak & Seafood

Our guest speaker is Command Sergeant Major Clifton H. Johnson, CSM of the 3rd Sustainment Brigade, and his topic is *"The Story of the 3rd Sustaining Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, GA."* He will be focusing on what a sustainment brigade is, how it supports the 3rd Infantry Division, and how community support is so important to what they do.

CSM Johnson, a native of Florence, AL, received an Associate Degree in Business Administration from the University of Northern Ohio and a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from Excelsior College of Albany, NY. He entered active duty on August 25, 1983 and completed Basic Training and AIT at Ft. Jackson, SC as a Unit Supply Specialist (76Y). His deployment credentials include Operation Southern Watch (Kuwait), Operation Iraqi Freedom III (Iraq), and Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09 (Iraq). Among his numerous awards and decorations are the Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal (2OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (3OLC), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Iraqi Campaign Medal.

LAHS MEETING, Thursday, September 17, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m., B&J's Steak & Seafood

Teresa Williams will be presenting a program on *"With Woman Rising," the story of a Black woman in the Civil War.* This is an excerpt from an article published in the Georgia Historical Quarterly that she co-authored with her husband, David Williams, entitled "The Women Rising": Cotton, Class and Confederate Georgia's Rioting Women.'

Ms. Williams was born in Columbus, GA and currently resides in Valdosta. She received a Bachelor of Business Administration from North Georgia College, and a Master of Arts – History and Master of Public Administration from Valdosta State University. She has been employed at VSU since 1992 and serves as the Graduate School's administrative coordinator and instructor of history. Ms. Williams has also published articles in the *Encyclopedia of the American Civil War* and most recently co-authored *Plain Folk in a Rich Man's War: Class and Dissent in Confederate Georgia* (University Press of Florida).

*** There will be a ***

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, October 15, 2009, 4:30 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

LAHS Members are always welcome.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LAHS



LAHS MEETING, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2009, 3:00 P.M.

At Ashantilly

This is not our regular meeting day or time, but IT IS OUR LAHS MEETING FOR OCTOBER. This meeting will commemorate the 30th anniversary of LAHS --- please join us as we celebrate this milestone with a program of observance and dedication. Master of Ceremonies Buddy Sullivan will be reflecting on the past, present and future of LAHS, and the Ashantilly historical marker which LAHS helped fund will be unveiled. There will be elegant refreshments, a book signing, and great fellowship!

"We request the pleasure of your company on the grounds of Ashantilly at 3:00 p.m., on Sunday, October 25, to show your support for LAHS on this special day."

Coming Events:

Thursday, August 6, 3:00 p.m. – Buddy Sullivan will speak on Spanish Settlement on the Guale Coast, 1526-1680, at the Sapelo Island Visitor’s Center in Meridian.

Saturday, August 22, 2:00 p.m. – Colonial Games: Farkle, a dice game. Fort Frederica National Monument.

Wednesday, September 16, 10:00 a.m. – Linda Lamb will be speaking on Native Plants at the Sapelo Visitors Center in Meridian.

Saturday, September 26, all day – 18th Century Cooking. Fort Frederica National Monument.


Thursday, October 15, 3:00 p.m. – Buddy Sullivan will be speaking on The McIntosh Commercial Fishery: Oystering and Shrimping, 1890-1970, at the Sapelo Visitor Center in Meridian.

Sunday, October 25, 3:00 p.m. - BIG CELEBRATION – LAHS’s 30th Birthday and the Dedication of our new Ashantilly historic marker at Ashantilly.



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New Officers/Board Members/Program Chairmen for 2009/2011:

- Betty Cleveland, Treasurer
- Vivian Amason, Jessie Clavin, Lloyd Flanders – Board Members
- Carol Churi, Membership; Casey McMillian, Archives; Betty Cleveland, Publications
-  Vice President – could it be you?

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Buddy Sullivan presented the Buddy Sullivan Scholarship Award of \$1,000 to Whitney Stregles, Salutatorian at McIntosh County Academy. Whitney was MCA’s STAR Student, a member of the National Beta Club, and an active volunteer in the community. She will attend the University of Georgia to study aeronautical engineering.

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**IN MEMORIAM:**

Isabel Mealing

LAHS Officers

|                          |                  |              |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| President (2008-10)      | Harriet Roberson | 912-265-6729 |
| Vice-President (2008-09) | Jack Godfrey     | 912-832-5622 |
| Secretary (2009-2011)    | Dee Slagle       | 912-832-3746 |
| Treasurer(2009-2011)     | Betty Cleveland  | 912-832-2166 |

2009-2011

Vivian Amason  
Jessie Clavin  
Lloyd Flanders

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         | Carol Churi      |
| Programs           | Howard Klippel   |
| Scholarship        | Ann Howard       |
| Field Trips        |                  |
| Altamaha "Echoes"  | Carole Williams  |
| Publications/Books | Betty Cleveland  |
| Historian          | Buddy Sullivan   |
| Hospitality        | Everett Moriarty |
| Webmaster          | Jim Bruce        |
| Archives           | Casey McMillian  |

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Life Memberships

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

Honorary Memberships

Mattie Gladstone  
Everett Moriarty  
Myrtle Newberry  
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](http://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.

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**GARRISON DINNER**

Saturday, September 26, 2009

7 pm – 9 pm

*Join the Garrison as our British officers dispute with a group of Spanish emissaries sent to protest the presence of Fort King George on the Altamaha River. An evening dinner and debate among British and Spanish officers will take place. **\$30 per person for the dinner. RSVP.***

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**OUR ARCHIVES/LIBRARY BUILDING,  
ON THE GROUNDS OF  
FORT KING GEORGE HISTORIC SITE,  
IS OPEN EVERY THURSDAY  
FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.**



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