

Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

May 2011

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

LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, May 19, 2011, 4:30 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

LAHS members are always welcome.

(Postponed from April)

LAHS Meeting, Thursday, May 19, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza

The new Altamaha Riverkeeper, Sonja Cox, will be on hand to share her work and what that entails. The Altamaha Riverkeeper has been working to protect Georgia's largest river system since it was founded in 1999 as the 27th Waterkeeper Alliance organization in the United States and the second Riverkeeper organization in Georgia.

Sonja is a lifetime resident of Georgia. She was born in Athens in the watershed's headwaters and grew up on a farm in rural Douglas County. She also spent time on the Georgia coast where her family has lived for 17 years. Sonja graduated magna cum laude, with honors, from UGA's School of Journalism, and graduated cum laude from UGA's School of Law where she studied all the available courses in environmental law, natural resources law, as well as local government law and land use law. She loves the outdoors, especially hiking and paddling.

LAHS ANNUAL PICNIC, Thursday, June 16, 2011, 6:00 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

Dust off those old recipes for our annual picnic!! LAHS will provide the meat and drinks, and members are asked to bring side dishes such as casseroles, salads, desserts, inc. There will be a PRIZE given for the most delicious "*Historic Food Dish.*" That means you need to look through your recipes and find something that your grandmother or great-grandmother handed down to you . . . or if you have an old cookbook, look for a delicious dish to share. Be prepared to tell us the origin of the dish and how old the recipe might be. We will vote for a winner after the meal.

We will also have other fun things going on, so please make a real effort to come and take part with us at this annual affair. It's always a fun event and a great time to get to know new members and share some great food.



LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, July 21, 2011, 4:30 p.m.
Fort King George Historic Site
LAHS members are always welcome.

LAHS Meeting, Thursday, July 21, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
Fort King George Historic Site
Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza

LAHS welcomes back Buddy Sullivan as he presents "*The Civil War in Georgia: An Operational Overview.*" This slide program will feature coastal operations, the burning of Darien, Forts Pulaski and McAllister, and the March to the Sea.

A native of McIntosh County and a fifth-generation coastal Georgian, Buddy Sullivan is a leading authority on the history and culture of coastal Georgia. He is the author of 17 books and is in frequent demand as a lecturer on a variety of historical topics. He is a recipient of the Governor's Medal in the Humanities from the Georgia Humanities Council in recognition of his literary and cultural contributions to the state.

Buddy's books include *Georgia: A State History*, prepared in association with the Georgia Historical Society and the first new history of Georgia published in 25 years. He has also written two comprehensive coastal histories, *Early Days on the Georgia Tidewater*, and *From Beautiful Zion to Red Bird Creek*. The latter volume received the Georgia Historical Society's Lilla M. Hawes Award for Georgia's outstanding work of local history for 2001. In addition, he has written several books on 19th century coastal Georgia agriculture, focusing on rice cultivation and plantation management, and most recently, *High Water on the Bar*, covering the economic and maritime aspects of the 19th century coastal lumber industry. Buddy is also a major contributor to the University of Georgia's online *New Georgia Encyclopedia*, as well as the UGA Press volume, *The New Georgia Guide*. He has been director of the Sapelo Island Research Reserve since 1993, and is Director Emeritus of LAHS and the Society's historian.

News from the Board of Directors:

- *The following slate of proposed officers for 2011-2013 will be presented for a vote at the May meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor, with prior consent of the nominee. Those elected will take office in June.*

President: Jack Godfrey

Vice President: *Still looking for a volunteer – are you willing to serve?*

Treasurer: Betty Cleveland

Board Members: Vivian Amason, Martha Carney, Carol Churi, Linda Mock

***URGENT ***

MEMBERSHIP DUES WERE DUE IN JANUARY

URGENT

Reminder cards have been mailed to those members who have not paid their dues. We value your membership and hope that you will continue to enjoy all the benefits of being a member: great programs, quarterly newsletters, friendly fellowship with other members, field trips, summer picnic, Christmas party – and free admission to Fort King George. The dues remain the same as last year – Family \$20, Individual \$15, Student \$5, Corporate \$100, and Life Membership \$250. Please send your check to LAHS, P.O. Box 1405, Darien, GA 31305. Members still unpaid by July will be dropped.



The new Ardoch Historical Marker on US 17 was dedicated on February 12, 2011. Pictured are (L-R) Steven Smith, FKG Supt.; Bill Stewart and Richard Smith, descendants of Charles McDonald; Lloyd Flanders, LAHS Pres., and Bubba Pitts, LAHS Bd. Member and McDonald Clan. (Photo used by permission of *The Darien News*)

The marker reads: “ Near here was Ardoch Plantation, the home of the McDonalds and Gignilliat from Colonial Days through the Civil War when it was sold to former slaves. During the Revolutionary War these McDonalds were Loyalists, as were many families of Coastal Georgia. In 1782, Patriot companies of Captain Patrick Carr and Captain Samuel West deserted the command of General Anthony Wayne and plundered St. Andrew’s Parish. They murdered eleven Loyalists including Ardoch’s owner, Charles McDonald. McDonald was killed in his own doorway in the presence of his wife and children and the house was burned. The plantation was confiscated by the State but later returned to his widow.”

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*Coming Events:*

*Saturday, May 21, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm -* ARCHAEOLOGY FESTIVAL, Fort Frederica National Monument. Explore Georgia archaeology through interactive exhibits highlighting different aspects of the archaeological process.

*Saturday, May 28, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm -* MEMORIAL DAY, Fort King George Historic Site. Join the staff as cannons and muskets are fired, and poems are read to remember those who have served their country.

*Saturday, July 7, 2:00 pm -* BATTLE OF BLOODY MARSH ANNIVERSARY, Fort Frederica National Monument, Bloody Marsh Battle Site on Demere Road. Visit with an 18<sup>th</sup> century soldier and learn about the battle.

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| <p>IN MEMORIAM</p> <p>LILLIAN BENNETT SCHAITBERGER</p> <p>1920-2011</p> |
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**LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 1405 – Darien, GA 31305

[www.loweraltamahahistoricalociety.org](http://www.loweraltamahahistoricalociety.org)

**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)

LAHS Officers

|                            |                   |              |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| President (2010-2011)      | Lloyd Y. Flanders | 912-437-4504 |
| Vice-President (2009-2011) | Jack Godfrey      | 912-832-5822 |
| Secretary (2010-2012)      | Lota Bryans       | 912-832-5421 |
| Treasurer (2009-2011)      | Betty Cleveland   | 912-832-2166 |

Board 2009-2011

Vivian Amason  
Chuck Bryans  
Ed Cawthon  
Jessie Clavin

Board 2010-2012

Betty Ewing  
Walter Pitts  
Dee Slagle  
Carole Williams

Past-President  
Director Emeritus

Harriet Roberson  
Buddy Sullivan

Committee Chairpersons

|                    |                              |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Ft. King George    | Steven Smith                 |
| Membership         | Carol Churi                  |
| Programs           | Howard Klippel               |
| Scholarship        | Ann Howard                   |
| Field Trips        | Harriet Roberson             |
| Altamaha "Echoes"  | Carole Williams              |
| Publications/Books | Chuck Bryans                 |
| Historian          | Buddy Sullivan               |
| Hospitality        | Mary Virginia & Harry Clark  |
| Webmaster          | Jim Bruce                    |
| Archives           | Martha Carney/Casey McMillan |

Life Memberships

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Muriel Bell               | Harriet Langford        |
| Marsha Certain            | David Miller            |
| Coastal GA Historical Soc | 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 Y. Flanders         | Sapelo National Bank    |
| Read Gignilliat           | Jeff & Kelly Spratt     |
| Gus & Marg Hallman        | Eloise Thompson         |
| Cecil & Sandra Hudson     | Jesse & Glenda Varnedoe |
| Bill Jones III            |                         |

Honorary Life Memberships

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Ralph Gill Jr.   | Myrtle Newberry |
| Mattie Gladstone | Buddy Sullivan  |
| Everett Moriarty |                 |

*The oldest English fort remaining on Georgia's coast.*

**Cannons Across The Marsh**

*Saturday, July 2, 2011*

*10 am – 4 pm*

*Join the Garrison for a day of artillery drills, musket firings, and soldier's life activities to honor Independence Day. Free watermelon and lemonade will be served.*

**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.**

*HAPPY  
INDEPENDENCE DAY*

*JULY 4, 2011*

