

Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

February 2018

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

LAHS Meeting, Thursday, February 15, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

Dutch treat supper, 5:30 p.m. at B&J Steak (please note time change)

Elizabeth DuBose, Executive Director of the Ossabaw Island Foundation in Savannah, will reveal the voices and mystery of Ossabaw Island, a program that will be particularly enlightening for LAHS members participating in the spring field trip to the island on March 8. The Ossabaw Foundation is a local nonprofit that continues to share Ossabaw's rich history. While the preservation of Georgia's coast has a similar story each island has a unique twist. Elizabeth will share Ossabaw's part of the conservation of the coast.



February 19, 2018

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Adam Mackinnon is the highly-accomplished and knowledgeable educator coordinator for the Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve. He is one of the most authoritative naturalists in coastal Georgia with his expertise in marine life, coastal ecosystems, shorebirds, reptiles, and many other topics. In concert with LAHS's occasional diversions into the natural history of our remarkable coast, Adam will discuss the Atlantic right whale and the amazing life cycle of the species, along with historical implications relating to the challenges the right whale has faced through the last several centuries.

APRIL LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, April 19, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

**LAHS Meeting, Thursday, April 19, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Fort King George Historic Site
Dutch treat supper, 5:30 p.m. at B&J Steak**

Robert Todd, a McIntosh County resident and native who teaches at Georgia Southern University, will present a program about the coastal shrimp fishery with particular emphasis on the history of the annual Blessing of the Fleet in Darien. The Blessing of the Fleet will observe its 50th anniversary in April, having begun in 1968, and Robert will display images and highlights of the event's half-century of local activity. Robert is a member of the Todd family of Valona and McIntosh County, several generations of which have been engaged in the local fishery since the 1920s.

News from the Board:

- Martha Martin has been appointed by the Board as the new LAHS Books/Publications chairperson and coordinator, replacing Hoyt and Martha Carney. Thank you, Carneys, for a job well done.
- Improvements continue to be made at the LAHS Archives, coordinated by archives committee chairman Sissy Kammer. Some potential donations to the collections are being explored in concert with other local organizations.
- Linda Daniels and Aimee Gaddis have been appointed as our nominating committee to come up with a slate of officers for your consideration. We will need a President, Vice-President and four Board Members, each of whom will serve a two-year term beginning in June. Elections will be held at our May meeting. If you are interested in serving in some way, please let one of the nominating committee members know.

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MEMBERSHIPS DUE ON JANUARY 1, 2018

Life Membership - \$250 Family - \$25 Individual - \$20 Student - \$5

Pay with a credit card on the LAHS website at
www.loweraltamahahistoricalociety.org OR make your check payable to LAHS
and mail to P.O. Box 1405, Darien GA 31305,
OR give to Yvonne Carter, Treasurer.

Membership dues are vital to the success of LAHS – they are used to fund the Buddy Sullivan Scholarship Fund, speakers' honorariums, historical markers, postage and printing, and many other worthwhile projects. We value your membership!

Please welcome the following new members who have joined during the last quarter (Nov. 2017-Jan. 2018):

Margaret Sammons, Jean Wallace, and Mark Yeager

Coming Events:

*Friday, March 9 - Sunday, March 11, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, **Scottish Heritage Days**, Fort King George Historic Site, showcasing Georgia's Scottish and colonial history. Weapons demonstrations, cannon firings, 18th century cooking and music, and re-enactments will be held each day, with a traditional Scottish "Kirkin o' the Tartans" on Sunday, March 11 at 10:00 am.*

*Friday, April 13 – Sunday, April 15, **Blessing of the Fleet**, Darien Waterfront Park, annual celebration of the shrimping industry. Events include art show, car show, 5K run, and food and fun for all ages. The blessing of the shrimp boats will be held on Sunday, April 15.*

GeorgiaInfo, In Their Own Words (to coincide with LAHS Meeting Dates)

February 15, 1894: New Mode of Transportation - John Girardeau Legare of Darien, Georgia wrote in his journal of attempting a new mode of transportation, to his family's amusement: "...I am learning to ride a Bicycle. I am getting along finely, but I seem to furnish a good deal of amusement to my family who usually look on while I am practicing." Source: Buddy Sullivan, ed. *The Darien Journal of John Girardeau Legare, Ricegrower*, The University of Georgia Press, Athens & London, 2010, p. 48.

March 15, 1784: Letter Described Recovery from Revolution - Writing to a friend in South Carolina, Savannah merchant Joseph Clay told how Georgia was recovering from the Revolutionary War: "...Our State is settling again very fast, especially the back Country - a large Cession of land as far So'therly as the Oconees has lately been agreed to by the Creek Indians which will be settled immediately. Some valuable settlers have and are coming in from East Florida. Our Ports has been tolerably filled this Winter and though individuals will feel the effects of the War for many years, I may Say all their lives, yet the Country at large will soon recover. Nothing is wanting but hands to cultivate the earth" Source: Collections of the Georgia Historical Society, Vol. VIII, *Letters of Joseph Clay, Merchant of Savannah, 1776-1793*

April 19, 1734: Salzburgers Worked Hard, Surprised English - Baron Georg Philipp Friedrich von Reck was one of the leaders of the Salzburgers who emigrated to Georgia in the colonial period, and he kept a journal of their voyage and settlement. This day's entry showed how hard they were working - and how much it surprised the English settlers: "...This Day the Satlzburgers finished the Way for Carriages; which surprized the English mightily, to see they had compassed it in so short a Time; having built seven Bridges over several Rivers, besides cutting the Thickets and Trees that were in the Way; and this for the Length of 12 Miles, from Abercorn to Ebenezer. ..." Source: *Our First Visit in America: Early Reports from the Colony of Georgia, 1732-1740* (Savannah: Beehive Press, 1974), p. 52.



LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1405 – Darien, GA 31305

www.loweraltamahahistoricalsociety.org

LAHS Officers

President ((2016-2018)	Buddy Sullivan	912-658-5844
Vice-President (2016-2018)	Eunice Moore	912-437-4935
Secretary (2017-2019)	Harriet Roberson	912-265-6729
Treasurer (2017-2019)	Yvonne Carter	912-437-5733

Board Members 2016-2018

Betty Ewing
Howard Klippel
Wes Tippens
Lamar Williamson

Board Members 2017-2019

Linda Daniels
Aimee Gaddis
Martha Martin
Paul Nix

Past-President
Director Emeritus

Buddy Sullivan
Buddy Sullivan

Committee Chairpersons

Ft. King George	Valarie Ikhwan
Membership	Wes Tippens
Programs	
Scholarship	Ann Howard
Field Trips	Paul Nix/Wes Tippens
Altamaha "Echoes"	Carole Williams
Publications/Books	Martha Martin
Historian	Buddy Sullivan
Webmaster	Jim Bruce
Archives	Sissy Kammer

Life Memberships

Vivian Amason	Read Gignilliat
Muriel Bell	Gus & Marg Hallman
Marsha Certain	Cecil & Sandra Hudson
Bob & Carol Churi	Bill Jones III
Coastal GA Hist Society	Harriet Langford
Darien Telephone Co.	David Miller
Mrs. Caroline B. Davis	Chris & Ward Milner
John & Mary Dean	Bill & Sherry Minnich
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	Barbara Poetzman
Albert & Joyce Fendig	Frances Pollard
Lloyd Y. Flanders	John Reehling
Friends of Hofwyl	Jeff & Kelly Spratt
Aimee G. Gaddis	Jesse & Glenda Varnedoe

Honorary Life Memberships

Jim & Barbara Bruce	Buddy Sullivan
Mattie Gladstone	

FORT KING GEORGE STATE HISTORIC SITE

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

www.gastateparks.org/fortkinggeorge

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

History's Stories Writing Workshop

Saturday, February 10, 2018, 10 am – 12 pm

*Learn about figures of local history through the
documents they left behind, then write some of your
own. \$30. Registration is required.*

Guided Tour of Georgia's First Fort

Saturday, February 24, 2018, 2 pm–3:30 pm

Explore the site with a ranger in redcoat uniform

A Cup of Tea with Pvt. Daughtry

Saturday, February 24, 2018, 10 – 11:30 am

*Join a ranger for a hot cup of tea and discuss
history.*

Colonial Women

Saturday, March 3, 2018, 10 am – 3 pm

*In honor of Women's History Month, come learn
about the lives of colonial women.*

OUR ARCHIVES/LIBRARY BUILDING
ON THE GROUNDS OF
FORT KING GEORGE HISTORIC SITE
IS OPEN EVERY THIRD THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH FROM 11 AM - 3 PM EXCEPT DECEMBER.
OTHER DAYS AND HOURS ARE AVAILABLE BY
APPOINTMENT.



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