

Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society



Summer 2025

"The mission of L.A.H.S. is to Preserve and Disseminate the History of McIntosh County."

A Word from Bill

Dear Friends of LAHS,

I hope you are having a great summer. I am writing to give you a brief update on what's going on with LAHS during these lazy summer days.

Your Board of Directors is taking a Summer break after working hard this past year. We have put a new budget and financial reporting system in place; we have nearly finished applying for an improved IRS status to allow us to seek grants which we could use to further our mission and serve our community. A subcommittee is working to rework the LAHS archive building at Fort King George to ensure long-term protection of our historic assets. We already have a full Fall program schedule (more on that later) and have been working on the ever-popular field trips.

We will not be meeting for our regular Thursday night programs in August. Lots of folks are travelling and we want to start September with a bang. Our first program this Fall will present some fascinating and little-known local history of a woman shrimper and boat captain, so please be on the lookout for more information at the end of the Summer.

I want also to thank our outgoing Board Chair and President, Paul Nix, for his dedication to LAHS over many years and especially the last 3 years as he has led the effort to strengthen our club after the difficult COVID years. I will be taking his place for the next year and look forward to continuing his work on our behalf. I hope you will reach out to me or any of our board members with ideas and suggestion, either for programs and field trips or for any other way in which we might make LAHS an even better organization to further our appreciation of the history and environment of this special and spectacular place we call home.

Have a wonderful summer and see you in September.

Bill Barton



Volunteers Needed! Darien's annual Fall Festival will be Saturday, Nov. 1 from 10-5. We would like to have a tent to meet and greet and sell our books. Last year was very busy and a lot of fun! Can you give an hour?!: em: billbarton1@bellsouth.net *The more the merrier!*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Bill Barton

President 2025-26

615-305-1734

Susan Inman

Secretary 2025-27

Paul Nix

Treasurer 2025-27

Buddy Sullivan

Past President

Director Emeritus

Directors: 2025-27: Maria Hane, Charlie Ouszt, Susan Inman
2024-26: Paul Medders, Chelia Pinkney, Dwight Hall, Zach Crumpler

Upcoming Meetings

- August 21: No Meeting
- September 18: To be announced (Watch for an email)
- October 16: To be determined
- *Please note: There is now a \$5 admission fee for non-members to all monthly programs.*

Coming Events

The Ashantilly Center 15591 GA-99, Darien: <https://ashantillycenter.org/events/>

Sat., Sept. 20, 9-1 pm, Coastal WildScapes Fall Native Plant Sale!

Sat., Oct. 4, 6-8:00 pm, Annual BBQ & Tunes Fundraiser, lively tunes by Squirt Gun, barbecue dinner w/unlimited beverages. \$50 pp

Fort King George Historic Site - Darien, GA. 912-437-4770:

Sat., Aug. 30, 10-3pm, Laborer's Day: Crafting in the 18th Century. Celebrating the history of colonial trades and crafts folk. Featuring the sawyer with woodworking, the weaver with wool-spinning, as well as the baker with bread. \$4.75-\$8.25.

Sat., Sept. 27, 2025, 2-4pm, Your State Parks Planting Day! Support native and endangered flora species by lending a hand! We will be removing invasive plants throughout the nature trail, as well as planting native plants. Volunteers receive FREE admission!

Sat., Oct. 11, 10-2pm, Chat with a Chandler: Join us at the Highlander House as we make candles in the style of the 18th century. Learn about the life of a chandler (ye ol' candle-maker) around the fire! \$4.75 - \$8.25.

Sun., Oct. 12, 10-2 pm, Celebrate Indigenous People's Day! A ranger will be outside at the Guale Roundhouse demonstrating the ancient technique of flint-knapping. This incredible skill was vital for all Native Americans in creating all sorts of tools and weapons. \$4.75-\$8.25.

Sat., Oct. 18, 10-2pm, Potions, Pills, & Pustules: 18th Century Medicine. Sick with the flux or malaria? The Doctor is in and might have a cure! Visit the Doctor's house inside the Fort and learn all about 18th century medical practices. \$4.75-\$8.25.

Sat., Oct. 25, 7pm-10pm, Echoes on the Altamaha - Candle Lantern Tour. The moon is out; the lanterns are lit! For one night only, the past comes alive to tell you their tales. This year we focus on the history surrounding the 250th anniversary of the USA. \$10. <https://gastateparks.org/FortKingGeorge>

Darien Fall Fest

Sat., Nov. 1, 10-5pm, Darien, Classic Car Show, Live Music, Vendors, Food Trucks, Doggy Parade at 11:00. Fun for the whole family!
FREE <https://darienfallfestival.com/>



LAHS needs you!
Volunteer for an hour:
Always a fun time



SPOTLIGHT

Susan Inman



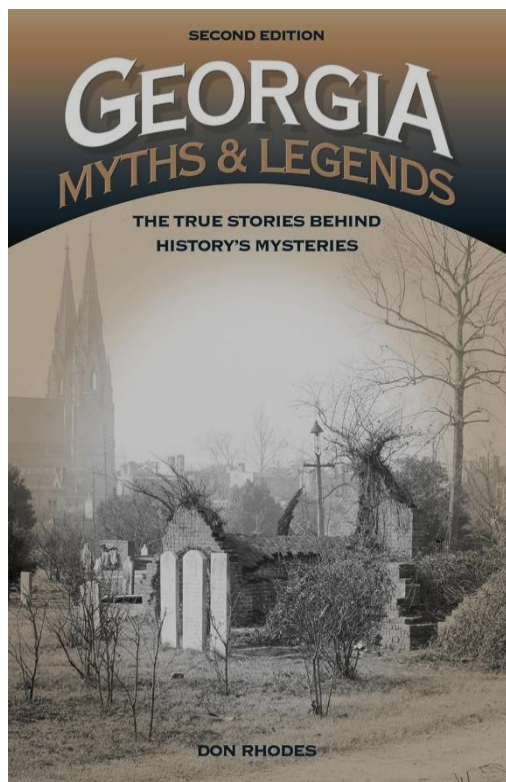
Susan grew up in the South Dakota–Minnesota region and later completed her master's degree in southwestern Ohio. Her career has taken her across the United States, ultimately landing her on a Georgia barrier island in 2002, where she spent nearly a decade immersed in coastal conservation. There, one of the many projects focused on shorebird research through the American Oystercatcher Program in partnership with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and private coastal landowners.

Today, Susan serves as an advocate for both natural resources and the communities that depend on them at One Hundred Miles (OHM), a coastal conservation nonprofit. While her work is more action-based now, her roots in the birding world remain strong. OHM's mission—protecting Georgia's coast through education, advocacy, and community engagement—reflects her belief that healthy ecosystems and healthy communities are deeply interconnected.

Susan's passion for understanding the land's past and the people who have shaped it led her to join the LAHS group. She continues to learn from local historians and generational connections, always with an eye toward what we leave for those who come next. Susan is on our Board as our new Secretary. Let's give her a warm welcome!

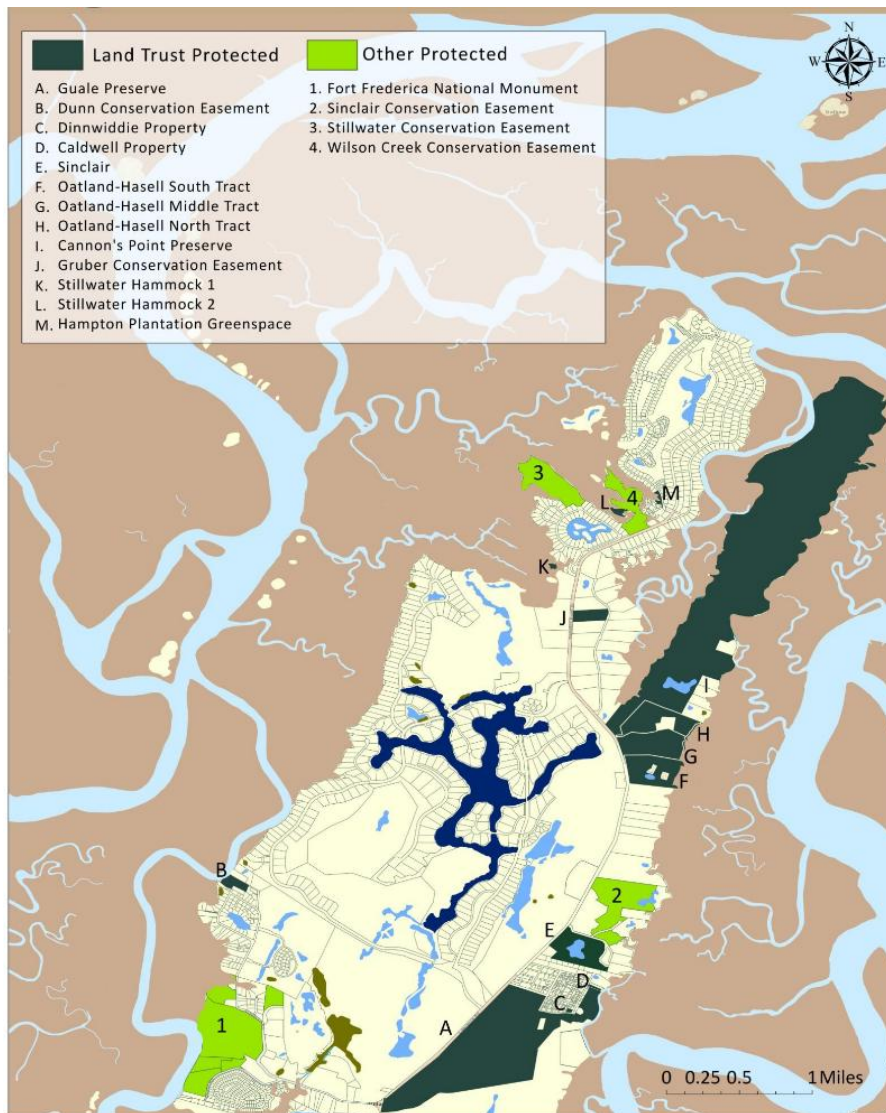
A fun read for
Georgia
newcomers!

Book of Interest



Georgia Myths and Legends: The True Stories Behind History's Mysteries (Legends of America) by Don Rhodes, paperback, October 2015

Author Rhodes explores unusual phenomena, strange events, and mysteries in Georgia's history. Each episode included in the book is a story unto itself, and the tone and style of the book is lively and easy to read for a general audience interested in Georgia history. Sixteen mind-boggling tales. From the puzzle of lost confederate gold to a woman who mysteriously spent her life waving at more than 50,000 passing ships, to the question of the whereabouts of an H-bomb jettisoned off the coast of Savannah and whether or not it will explode, this selection of stories from Georgia's past explores some of the Peach State's most compelling mysteries and debunks some of its most famous myths.



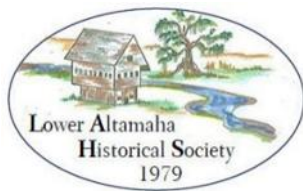
Noteworthy

ST. SIMONS LAND TRUST

Concerned with increased high-density development that was negatively impacting St. Simons, more than twenty years ago the Land Trust's founders built an organization that could partner with residents and visitors to protect the unique qualities of this barrier island. To fulfill its Mission, achievable and visionary goals were created to strategically acquire and conserve properties that were most vulnerable to destruction of environmental values and cultural, historic features.

The Mission included a far-sighted approach that ensured long-lasting, positive impact on those who currently, and for generations to come, live on and visit the island. This included providing green spaces, trails, pocket parks, and vistas as well as protecting rare ecosystems, maritime forests, shorelines, streams, and large tracts of undeveloped land. This important Mission has inspired a culture of conservation on St. Simons Island.

The **St. Simons Land Trust** has preserved and protected 35 island properties since it was founded in 2000, totaling nearly 1,400 acres or roughly 14% of the island. Join us for **Family Day!**: Sat., Oct. 11, 9:30am-12:30pm at Cannons Point Preserve. Hike or bike the Preserve, partake in scavenger hunts, experience family-friendly guided hikes and wildlife presentations, take photos in the Dahlia Photo Booth, and enjoy educational booths from other local Land Trust partners.



Please like us and follow us on
Facebook

www.loweraltamahahistoricalsociety.org

MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWEL

If you haven't already, please remit your dues today.

Join with others interested in learning more about this amazing place we get to call *home*.

Memberships

Annual: Family - \$75 Individual - \$50 Oglethorpe Society- \$500

Pay w/credit card or PayPal on the LAHS website.

Or Make your check payable to LAHS and bring to the meeting.

Or Mail to LAHS, P.O. Box 1405, Darien, GA. 31305

Welcome New Members!



We have 302 followers!

A BIG Thank you to Paul Nix
for your dedication and
hard work the last 3 years
Hope to see you soon!