

Altamaha *Echoes*

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Lower Altamaha F

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

LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Nix
President 2023-2024
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Buddy Sullivan
Director Emeritus

**Board Members
2021 – 2023**
Martha Martin
Harriet Roberson

2022 – 2024
Eric Teal
Missy Brandt Wilson

A Word from Wes

Dear friends in history,

Over the last 3 years we have battled Covid mandates and canceled meetings. We were able to hold our Historical Society together with field trips, Newsletters, and Board meetings. Because we are a nonprofit, we are able to participate in Economic Injury Disaster Grants, sponsored by the Federal Government to offset the losses of businesses and nonprofits during the Covid epidemic. Using our nonprofit 501[c]3 tax exempt designation, we were able to receive \$15,000 in grant money, to use as we see fit, as long as the purpose complies with the LAHS Mission and IRS regulations. The Board has decided to set aside \$5000 of these funds for our annual Buddy Sullivan Scholarship over the next five years. We are also looking into using some of these funds for relocating the Archives to a more secure location.

In addition, we were able to use our nonprofit designation to enable LAHS to function as a fiscal sponsor for a small startup organization, the Butler Island Coalition. After several conversations with our CPA, it was determined that LAHS could receive and disseminate grant money for this smaller organization to help them get started on their projects, and LAHS would remain in compliance with IRS regulations for nonprofit organizations.

There were two grants, both less than \$2,500, that we received from the funding source and deposited into the two bank accounts created for the grant monies, and dispersed to the Butler Island Coalition to fund their projects.

Looking to the future of LAHS, I have decided it is best that I resign my position as your President, effective on the date of the previous Board of Directors meeting. The Board accepted my resignation, and at my recommendation, elected Paul Nix as President to serve out the balance of my term, through May 2024.

Over the past 3 years I have thoroughly enjoyed the honor of serving as your President. This actually comes at a good time, as I am dealing with the failing health of my mother. It also frees me to pursue my passion of flying for the Civil Air Patrol, as I will continue exploring all things history!

If any of you ever need anything at all, please do not hesitate to call or email me. I will truly miss all of you.

Best regards,

Wes

***Our field trip to the Coastal Georgia Historical Society
Archeology Lab on St Simons Island was a huge success!!!***

There are pictures on the website of the tour!

Up coming Meetings at a glance ...

MAY

The speaker for the May 18 Lower Altamaha Historical Society's monthly meeting will be **Dr. Fred Marland**. His subject for the evening will be ***"SAPELO ISLAND: How a Georgia Barrier Island was Formed."***

Dr. Marland is certainly superbly qualified on this subject, having received his BS in math and biology from Union College in Kentucky; his MS in oceanography from Texas A&M; studied as a Fellow at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts; and received his PhD from Virginia Tech University. He worked for three years as the First Marine Scientist at Fort Johnson Marine Lab at the College of Charleston, South Carolina. On the Georgia coast, he worked on Sapelo Island at the University of Georgia Marine Institute, later served as Director of Marsh and Beach for the DNR, and lastly as Reserve Manager of Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Now retired, he and his wife Sarita live in a marsh front home off Hwy 99 in McIntosh County. He believes it is especially important to continue the study of our many coastal systems.

Since 2.6 million years ago, near the end of the last Ice Age called the Pleistocene, the Earth's climate has undergone alternating changes, from icehouse to hot house. The details of these changes have become known through the study of deep-sea sediment cores, the waxing and waning of deep polar glaciers in the Arctic and Antarctic, and their effects on the layered circulation of the world's oceans. In a complex interplay of factors, the formation of Sapelo can be proposed.

Come and let Fred put it all together for you; pictures included! That's Thursday, May 18th, at 7:00PM, in the auditorium of Fort King George State Historic Site, in Darien.

JUNE

We will host our Annual Picnic again in June this year. It will be held at 6pm at Fort King George Historic State Park in the picnic area. There will be food and games! Please plan to attend this chance to visit with your friends in history!

July

TBD – We will send out notice of this meeting by email later. Not sure yet what it will be, but it WILL be a good one!

ALSO...

We also have several Officer and Director slots open on our Board that we are trying to fill before the next meeting. *If anyone has a little extra time and would like to contribute to the success of your historical society, the vacancies are Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Program Chairman, and several Director positions available.* Please let Paul Nix know if you may be interested in serving in one of these important positions.

This is very important to the success of the Lower Altamaha Historical Society, so please volunteer to serve on the Board of your LAHS!

LAHS MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL

LAHS expenses continued even as we operated on a limited basis, and we are grateful to all members who kept their dues *current* during the pandemic. ***If you have not already done so, please remit your dues today and join with other folks interested in learning more about this amazing place we get to call home.***

Memberships

Annual

Student - \$5

Individual - \$20

Family - \$25

Lifetime

Family - \$400

Individual - \$250

Pay with a *credit card* or *PayPal* on the LAHS website at:

www.loweraltamahahistoricalociety.org

or

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

or

Mail your check to:

LAHS

PO Box 1405

Darien, GA 31305

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Jim Bruce jim@oatland.org St. Simons Island