

# Altamaha Echoes

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Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

June 2005

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## Lower Altamaha Historical Society Annual Report

It does not seem possible, but another year has passed for the Lower Altamaha Historical Society and attendance at our outstanding programs has rebounded after a slight drop early in the year. Our July 2005 annual picnic is being planned and other great programs are scheduled.

A major development for 2004-2005 was the new website designed and maintained by one of our members, Jim Bruce. If you have not seen this excellent companion to Altamaha Echoes, our premier monthly newsletter edited by Myrtle Newberry, simply copy and paste our URL on your browser: <http://www.loweraltamahahistoricalsociety.org>

"A Visit to Seabrook" was an exceptional experience for those who were lucky enough to sign up. We are hopeful that we might be able to book a day trip to one of the barrier islands later this year.

A number of our members, volunteering as painters, represented LAHS during the completion of the Tom Chambers Memorial Habitat for Humanity House.

Bill Ramsaur, a member from St. Simons Island is President of the Marshes of Glynn Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution. Bill and Jerry Braddock of Charleston, made a presentation to LAHS: "A Great Day for the Georgia Navy". This exceptional program was the prelude for the dedication ceremony for a historical marker, "The Georgia Navy" solemnized on April 19, 2005 at Fort Frederica National Monument.

The annual Christmas party was an unqualified success. The highlight, as usual, Everett Moriarty's egg nog.

The \$1000 Buddy Sullivan Scholarship was awarded to McIntosh County student, Jared Caldwell, who has been accepted at the Georgia Institute of Technology, majoring in Chemical Engineering.

The Bylaws of LAHS were amended establishing the term of office for each officer for two years beginning with the 2006 elections. The financial and membership fiscal year were changed from May 1 to January 1. Dues will be renewable January 1, 2006.

The Society has been served well by our elected officers and the various committees and their chairmen. Without the loyal and creative assistance and work of these exceptional members, my job would be impossible to perform. Thankfully, we have the good fortune of having many gifted and devoted members who have been willing to provide the necessary leadership to make our Society the success it is.

I consider it an honor to have been elected President for a second term of this stellar organization.

Respectfully,

Peyton Lingle

## OFFICERS

President Peyton Lingle  
Vice-President Buddy Sullivan  
Secretary Betty Cleveland  
Treasurer Kaye Traer  
Past-President Dinah Jackson

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2005 – 2007

Jim Bruce  
Bob Durden  
Jack Godfrey  
Chris Milner

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Scholarship Ann Baggett  
Finance Howard Klippel  
Altamaha Echoes Myrtle Newberry  
Membership Jeanne Klippel  
Programs Howard Klippel  
Community Relations Dyson Flanders  
Field Trips Ed & Joan Meyer  
Hospitality Harriet Roberson

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2004 – 2006

Harry Clark  
Dyson Flanders  
Myrtle Newberry  
Lamar Williamson  
  
Director Emeritus – Buddy Sullivan

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**.. Lower Altamaha Historical Society – May 1, 2005 – January 1, 2006**  
**Annual Dues: Individual \$15; Family \$ 20; Lifetime \$250; Corporate \$100 annual**

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## **BUDDY SULLIVAN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

The Buddy Sullivan Scholarship Award, \$1000, is given yearly to a McIntosh County student by Lower Altamaha Historical Society. The recipient this year is Jared Caldwell. He is a well - rounded student who is third in his class. The presentation was made at the McIntosh County Academy Honors Night on May 10, 2005. Jared is the son of James and Sherre Caldwell of McIntosh County. He has been accepted at Georgia Tech. There were five highly qualified students who competed for the scholarship.

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**LAHS MEETING, JUNE 16, 2005, 7:00 P.M.**  
**ST. ANDREW'S PARISH HOUSE**  
**Dutch Treat Supper, 5:45 P.M. at B&J Pizza**

**The Altamaha River** will be the program, presented by James Holland, the Altamaha Riverkeeper. The Altamaha River and its headwaters-the Ocmulgee, Ochopee and Oconee-make up is Georgia's largest watershed and it is critical to the states ecological and economic future. The Altamaha River Delta provides food for thousands of migratory birds from around the world. The Nature Conservancy named the Altamaha as one of the **"75 Last Great Places in the World"**.

James Holland was a commercial crabber. He personally observed the decline of the crabbing industry. In February 2005, The Georgia River Network, a statewide nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to the conservation of Georgia's waters, awarded Holland their highest honor "River Conservationist of the Year"

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**LAHS MEETING, Thursday, July 28, 2005, 5:30 P.M.**

FORT KING GEORGE HISTORIC SITE

POT LUCK PICNIC SUPPER, 5:30 P.M.

Fellowship Picnic Supper for LAHS members and guest. Bring a dish that will serve about eight people that does not require a knife for eating. LAHS will furnish Fried Chicken, drinks, paper products. Fellowship and socializing will be the fare for the evening. There is no program planned.

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**LAHS MEETING, AUGUST 18, 2005, 7:00 P.M.**

**ST. ANDREW'S PARISH HOUSE**

**Dutch Treat Supper, 5:45 P.M. at B&J Pizza**

**“Fort Stewart Museum–*the progress and processes and future*”** will be the program presented by Walter W. Meeks, III, Museum Director/Curator, Fort Stewart Museum, Fort Stewart, Georgia. Included in this presentation will be an over view of the mission of the museum, its de facto role in the Fort Stewart community and a few “sea stories” from Meeks, twenty three years as a museum professional

Buck Meeks was raised on the Myrtle Grove Plantation in Bryan County. He was graduated from Armstrong State College. His love of history and culture he attributes to his parents and ancestors in this area. Since 1982, Buck has worked in museums for both the state and federal government . Buck was involved in the making of the movies “*Glory*” and “*Ironclads and The General's Daughter*”.

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**Living on the Georgia Tidewater** – The following is Chapter One from “St. Catherines An Island in Time” by David Hurst Thomas. Published, 1988.

**Chapter One**

***Some Fortunate Hunter***

If some unwitting hands have not pulled them down, if they were not built entirely of wood, if the weather had not beaten too fiercely through the centuries, or if the streams have not inundated them, some fortunate hunter may yet stumble upon the mission remains of Santa Catalina de Guale.....Although at the time of the coming of the English, Santa Catalina was the most important of the Guale missions, the fierceness of the struggle in this region may have led the Yamasees and the English to treat it as the Romans did Carthage.

John Lanning, *The Spanish Missions of Georgia*

As luck would have it, that “fortunate hunter” turned out to be me. Three hundred years after Santa Catalina disappeared, our team of talented archaeologists rediscovered Georgia’s most important Spanish mission.

Like historians and archaeologists before us, we felt that the lost Mission Santa Catalina lay on St. Catherines Island, a 14,000-acre tract about fifty miles south of Savannah. Among the so-called *Golden Isles*, St. Catherines Island is one of the few that have not been subdivided and suburbanized. The Georgia-based, not-for-profit St. Catherines Island Foundation owns the island and strictly regulates a comprehensive program of research and conservation. This enlightened and progressive land management policy insured that Mission Santa Catalina not be destroyed by the crush of condos

and fast-food joints which typify too many of the southern barrier islands.

**LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 1405 -- Darien, Georgia 31305

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

LAHS Officers & Board of Directors, 2005-2006

President	Peyton Lingle
Vice-President	Buddy Sullivan
Secretary	Betty Cleveland
Treasurer	Kaye Traer

Harry Clark	Jim Bruce
Dyson Flanders	Bob Durden
Myrtle Newberry	Jack Godfrey
Kaye Traer	Chris Milner

Past-President Dinah Jackson  
Director Emeritus – Buddy Sullivan

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**Committee Chairman**

Altamaha Echoes	Myrtle Newberry
Community Relations	Dyson Flanders
Field Trips	Ed & Joan Meyer
Finance	Howard Klippel
Hospitality	Harriet Roberson
Membership	Jeanne Klippel
Programs	Howard Klippel
Scholarship	Ann Baggett

**FORT KING GEORGE STATE HISTORICAL SITE**

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

[www.darientel.net/~ftkgeo/](http://www.darientel.net/~ftkgeo/)

**Living History Programs** for students and guest are a daily activity at the Fort. Reenactors allow an eighteenth century experience for the observer.

**Cannons Across the Marsh**

Monday, July 4, 2005, 11am – 4 pm

Celebrate America’s birthday at this coastal fort with cannon firings, living history tours, demonstrations and free watermelon!

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**LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Life Memberships:**

Muriel Bell	Darien Telephone Co.
Mrs. Caroline B. Davis	Gus & Marg Hallum
Alfred W. Jones	Chris & Ward Milner
John Reehling	John & Mary Dean
Everett Moriarty	Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Laura Berolzheimer	Jeff & Kelly Spratt
Dyson & Lloyd Flanders	

**Corporate Memberships:**

**Sapelo National Bank, William Parker, Pres.**

**The Book Shop, Inc., Harold & Virginia Hicks**

**Coastal Georgia Historical Society**

**“The Lodge”, Little St. Simons Island**