

# Altamaha Echoes

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Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

May 2013

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

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## **LAHS Meeting, Thursday, May 16, 2013, 7:00 p.m.**

**Fort King George Historic Site  
Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza**

Jim Jordan returns as guest speaker with the remarkable story of "*A Confederate's Revenge: Gazaway Lamar Defeats the Yankees.*" On December 20, 1964, Major General William Sherman's army marched unopposed into Savannah. He immediately proclaimed that residents who took an oath of allegiance to the Union could keep all their property, except slaves. Gazaway Lamar, one of the South's most influential businessmen, took the oath. Still, the U.S. government seized his cotton and threw him in jail without charges. Join us as Mr. Jordan presents the story of Lamar's fight for "justice."

Jim Jordan is an author, historian, and lecturer specializing in the history and architecture of the 19<sup>th</sup> century South. His first book, "*Savannah Grey,*" a historical novel about life in Georgia during the thirty years leading up to the Civil War, was nominated for the 2007 Michael Shaara Award for Excellence in Civil War fiction. His article about the illegal 1858 voyage of the slave ship *Wanderer* and the man who masterminded it appeared in the fall 2009 issue of the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*. He and his wife Kathleen live on Callawassie Island, S.C.

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## **LAHS Meeting, June 20, 2013, 7:00 p.m.**

**Fort King George Historic Site  
Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza**

"*Sherman's March Through Georgia*" will be presented by Dr. Stephen Berry as part of the Darien sesquicentennial schedule of events commemorating the *Burning of Darien*, one of the most tragic and poignant events of the Civil War.

Dr. Berry received his M.A./Ph.D. in History from the University of North Carolina. He is currently employed at the University of Georgia as Associate Professor of History. He has been fascinated with history from age seven – his book "*House of Abraham: Lincoln and the Todds, a Family Divided by War,*" has been praised as a masterful study of the Todd family. In addition to his books, he has authored several articles for magazines such as *Civil War Monitor* and *North and South*.

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## **LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Thursday, July 18, 2013, 4:00 p.m.  
Fort King George Historic Site**

**Annual Picnic, July 18, 2013, 5:30 p.m.  
Fort King George Historic Site**

It's time for our annual picnic – once again, LAHS will be providing the delicious chicken fingers. It's up to you to bring your specialty dish to share with the group – appetizer, salad, or dessert. We always have a good time sharing great food with great folks – see you there!

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*News from the Board of Directors:*

- *A nominating committee of Lloyd Flanders, Ed Meyer, and Bob Hawkins has presented the following slate of officers:  
President: Jack Godfrey  
Vice President: Buddy Sullivan  
Treasurer – Betty Cleveland  
Board Members – Martha Carney, Linda Daniels, Lloyd Flanders, Chris Milner  
Elections will be held in May and those selected will assume their jobs in June.*
- *There is 1 green afghan for sale - you can purchase it for \$50 at the next meeting.*
- *Big “thank yous” go to Hoyt and Martha Carney for the purchase of two file cabinets for the Archives Building – and to Betty Ewing as she continues beautifying the area around the Archives Building.*
- *The Board voted to purchase the 3-volume set “Darien GA Newspaper Clippings,” by Tad Evans for the Archives Building.*

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***FIELD TRIP NEWS:*** *Photos from our Land & Legacy tour on Cumberland Island March 4, when 19 of our members spent the day being chauffeured in 2 vans around the northern part of the island by two Park Rangers Roy Williams and Laurabeth Johnston – with a steady stream of information about the history, flora, fauna, buildings, land, etc. What a delight it was!*



***Our next field trip*** is planned for Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. We are going to the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens/Bamboo Farm in southwest Savannah. A guide will lead us on our visit, telling us of the history, variety, and uniqueness of the place. We will be there from 10:00 am to noon and then eat lunch on our way to Skidaway Island for a visit to the UGA Marine Education Center and Aquarium, again with a guide. We will be heading home by about 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$15.00 per person, plus your lunch. If you want to join us for this trip, call me right away to make your reservation. Harriet 265-6729

## ***ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY***

*Life Membership - \$250 Corporate - \$100 Individual - \$15 Family - \$20 Student - \$5*

*Make your check payable to LAHS, P.O. Box 1405, Darien 31305, or give to Dee Slagle, Co-Membership Chairperson, or Betty Cleveland, Treasurer.*

*We value your membership and hope that you will continue to enjoy all the benefits of being a member: great programs, quarterly newsletters, field trips, summer picnic, Christmas party, free admission to Ft. King George – and friendly fellowship with other members.*

**PLEASE NOTE: IF DUES ARE NOT RECEIVED BY JUNE 30,  
THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER.**

## ***MEMBERSHIP NEWS***

*It is always a pleasure to welcome new members:*

- *George and Joyce Almasi, St. Simons Island*
- *Jerry and Sue Mann, St. Simons Island*

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### **150<sup>th</sup> COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS, BURNING OF DARIEN**

On June 11, 1863 the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts was ordered to burn the small town of Darien, GA completely. Despite his own personal opposition to the orders given to him, Robert Gould Shaw led the 54<sup>th</sup> Mass. into Darien for the purpose of burning the town into ruins. Only a few structures survived.

*Sunday, May 19, 3:00 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church, "The Rice Kingdom: Antebellum Darien & McIntosh County, 1800-1861," Buddy Sullivan, Lecture Part 1*

*Sunday, June 9, 3:00 pm, St. Cyprians Episcopal Church, "The Burning of Darien: We Know How. . . . But Why?" Buddy Sullivan, Lecture Part 2*

*To Be Announced, Darien Bridge, Unveiling of Art Mural,*

*Saturday, June 15, 10:00 am -5:00 pm, Broad Street/Darien Waterfront Park, Town Festival and Living History Encampment*

*Thursday, June 20, 7:00 pm, Fort King George Historic Site, "Sherman's March Through Georgia, Dr. Stephen Berry*

*Sunday, June 23, 3:00 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> African American Baptist Church, "Darien During Reconstruction," Benjamin Michael Lecture*

**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)

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

LAHS Officers

President (2011-2013)	Jack Godfrey	912-832-5822
Vice-President (2012-2014)	Jack Amason	912-832-5439
Secretary (2012-2014)	Harriet Roberson	912-265-6729
Treasurer (2011-2013)	Betty Cleveland	912-832-2166

Board Members 2011-2013

Vivian Amason  
Martha Carney  
Linda Mock  
Buddy Sullivan

Board Members 2012-2014

Betty Ewing  
Walter Pitts  
Dee Slagle  
Carole Williams

Past-President  
Director Emeritus

Lloyd Y. Flanders  
Buddy Sullivan

Committee Chairpersons

Ft. King George	Steven Smith
Membership	Jim Bruce/Dee Slagle
Programs	Howard Klippel
Scholarship	Ann Howard
Field Trips	Harriet Roberson
Altamaha "Echoes"	Carole Williams
Publications/Books	Hoyt Carney
Historian	Buddy Sullivan
Hospitality	Mary Virginia & Harry Clark
Webmaster	Jim Bruce
Archives	Martha Carney/Casey MacMillan

Life Memberships

Muriel Bell	Cecil & Sandra Hudson
Marsha Certain	Bill Jones III
Certus Bank	Harriet Langford
Bob and Carol Churi	David Miller
Coastal GA Historical Soc	Chris & Ward Milner
Darien Telephone Co.	Bill & Sherry Minnick
Mrs. Caroline B. Davis	Barbara Poetzman
John & Mary Dean	Frances Pollard
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	John Reehling
Albert & Joyce Fendig	Jeff & Kelly Spratt
Lloyd Y. Flanders	Eloise Thompson
Read Gignilliat	Jesse & Glenda Varnedoe
Gus & Marg Hallman	

Honorary Life Memberships

Jim & Barbara Bruce	Everett Moriarty
Ralph Gill Jr.	Myrtle Newberry
Mattie Gladstone	Buddy Sullivan

**Cannons Across the Marsh**

*Thursday, July 4, 2013*

*10 am – 4 pm*

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

**OUR ARCHIVES/LIBRARY BUILDING,  
ON THE GROUNDS OF  
FORT KING GEORGE HISTORIC SITE,  
IS OPEN EVERY THURSDAY  
EXCEPT THANKSGIVING  
THROUGH CHRISTMAS  
FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.**

*Happy Independence Day  
July 4, 2013*

