

Altamaha Echoes

Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

May 2010

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

LAHS MEETING, Thursday, May 20, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Fort King George Historic Site
Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m., B&J's Steak & Seafood

Al Sandrik, Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the National Weather Service, Weather Forecast Office in Jacksonville, Florida, will discuss Georgia's hurricane history with an emphasis on several major 19th century storms.

Mr. Sandrik has a BS Degree in Meteorology from Florida State University. He was employed by the National Hurricane Center from 1991-1994 and worked in the Center during Hurricane Andrew in 1992. He was a member of the National Weather Service Forecast Office Jacksonville "Spin up" staff in 1995 and advanced in this office to become the Warning Coordination Meteorologist in 2002. Prior to joining the National Weather Service, he served as a Meteorologist and Oceanographer in the Navy where he was attached to USS Iwo Jima (LPH-2), the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Beirut 1983), and at Naval Air Station Cecil Field.

LAHS ANNUAL PICNIC, Thursday, June 17, 2010, 6:00 p.m.
Fort King George Historic Site

Please make plans to attend the annual picnic and bring a covered dish, salad or dessert to serve 6-8 people. LAHS will provide the meat course, drinks, and ice. Jessie Clavin, Board member, is working on a surprise program/activity for our enjoyment and participation. Don't miss this fun event!

LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, July 15, 2010, 4:30 p.m.
Fort King George Historic Site
LAHS members are always welcome.

LAHS MEETING, Thursday, July 15, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Fort King George Historic Site
Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m., B&J's Steak & Seafood

Our guest speaker, Bob Churi, will present a program on "McIntosh County's Natural World." This program will show in photographs the plants and animals that live around us in McIntosh County and Coastal Georgia, with a special interest on the wide variety of birds in the area.

Bob and his wife, Carol, moved to Coastal Georgia in 2005 after he retired from Lockheed Martin in Maryland. His interest in birding and photography was launched when he relocated to the Chesapeake Bay area of Maryland in 1998. Over the past five years, Bob has explored Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge, as well as the Altamaha River area, Sapelo, Jekyll Island, and St. Simons Island where he has tried to capture nature's best in a digital photograph. Bob and Carol live near Darien at Tolomato Island.

* URGENT *

MEMBERSHIP DUES WERE DUE IN JANUARY

* URGENT *

Recently a reminder letter was mailed to those who haven't yet renewed their membership for the current year. We value your membership and hope that you will continue to enjoy all the benefits of being an LAHS member, i.e., interesting and informative speakers, historical field trips, and fun and fellowship we enjoy at each meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Churi, Membership Chairman, at cchuri@darientel.net. Thanks for your continued support.

News From the Board:

- The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of proposed officers and board members to be voted on at our May meeting:

President: Lloyd Y. Flanders

Secretary: Lola Bryans

Board: Betty Ewing, Walter Pitts, Dee Slagle, Carole Williams

These nominations are for two year terms, except for the president which is a one-year term. Those elected will take office in June.

- THANKS VERY MUCH TO THE MCINTOSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS who are overseeing the replacement of the crumpled posts on historical markers at Rice Hope and the Old Courthouse at Sapelo Bridge, with the nice new posts provided by the DNR and Fort King George. Both markers should now be "standing tall." Hooray!
- On our April 15 LAHS meeting night, our own Buddy Sullivan was attending the Annual Meeting of the Georgia Historical Society in Savannah, where the members were honoring him with the Sarah Nichols Pinckney Volunteer of the Year Award and a Garden Party Reception with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

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(Georgia Historical Markers) **Rice Hope** is located on U.S. 17 2 miles north of Eulonia. *"Famous Rice and Indigo Plantation of Colonial and Revolutionary times, Rice Hope was the home of George McIntosh, son of John McIntosh Mor of Darien, and brother of General Lachlan McIntosh. George McIntosh was Official Surveyor for St. Andrew's Parish, Member of the Commons House of Assembly, Member of the First Provincial Congress of Georgia, Member of the Council of Safety. During the Revolution, the home of George McIntosh at Rice Hope was burned and his slaves and stock run off by the British."*

**Old Courthouse at Sapelo Bridge** is located on U.S. 17 0.8 mile north of Eulonia. *"Sapelo Bridge, on the old Savannah to Darien Road 200 yards east of this spot, was the seat of McIntosh County from 1793 to 1818. Here the Courthouse and other public buildings stood; here, too, were the Armory and Muster Ground for the McIntosh County Cavalry Troop, and here the Stage Coaches stopped to refresh the passengers and change horses."*

*New Georgia Encyclopedia Adds New Material* - If you haven't visited the *New Georgia Encyclopedia* ([www.georgiaencyclopedia.org](http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org)) lately, you should do so. During 2009 NGE editors added 60 new articles and more than 400 new images to the site, expanding the site's value as a resource on Georgia's past, present, and future.

*Coming Events:*

Saturday, May 22, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm: *Community Archeology Festival*, Fort Frederica National Monument. Explore Georgia archeology through interactive exhibits.

Saturday, July 3, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm: *Cannons Across The Marsh*, Fort King George Historic Site. Join the Garrison for a day of artillery drills, musket firings, and soldiers' life activities to honor Independence Day. Free watermelon and lemonade will be served.

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**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

We would like to welcome our newest LAHS members (since 1/1/2010):

- Suzanne Ashmore, Brunswick
  - Ronnie Bacon, Darien
- Melissa Pope-Scott and Bryce Bumgartner, Darien
  - Kevin and Aidine Kiernan, St. Simons Island
    - Pat Metz, Townsend
  - Attorney James C. Nobles, Jr., Atlanta
    - Shirley Willard, Brunswick

*Congratulations!* Jacob Caldwell was selected as the 2010 Buddy Sullivan Scholarship recipient. Lloyd Y. Flanders, incoming LAHS President, will present the award on May 11 at the McIntosh County Academy auditorium. Jacob is MCA's Valedictorian and is planning to attend Georgia Tech in the fall. He was the Star Student, member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, Principal's Award, and participated in football and baseball. He has also attended early morning worship for his four years at MCA. He has participated in "Clean Up Darien" and helps the elderly in the community with yard work. LAHS wishes him success in all his endeavors.

**Ode to a Family Tree (lifted from Brantley County Cemetery Book)**

I climbed my family tree and found it wasn't worth the climb;  
And so, I scampered down, convinced it was a waste of time.  
Some branches of my tree I learned were rotten to the core,  
And all the tree was full of sap and hung with nuts galore!  
I used to brag of kinfolk, before I made the climb,  
But truth compels me not to mention those not worth a dime.  
So I beg you friends who boast of all your forebears great,  
To climb your family tree and learn of those who're not so straight.  
I've learned what family trees are like, and this is what I've found.  
They're so much like those tater vines, with the best ones underground.



**LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
P.O. Box 1405 – Darien, GA 31305  
[www.loweraltamahahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.loweraltamahahistoricalsociety.org)

LAHS Officers

|                          |                  |              |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| President (2008-10)      | Harriet Roberson | 912-265-6729 |
| Vice-President (2009-11) | Jack Godfrey     | 912-832-5622 |
| Secretary (2008-2010)    | Dee Slagle       | 912-832-3746 |
| Treasurer (2009-2011)    | Betty Cleveland  | 912-832-2166 |

Board 2009-2011

Vivian Amason  
Chuck Bryans  
Jessie Clavin  
Lloyd Y. Flanders

Board 2008-2010

Martha Carney  
Dan Good  
Betty Ewing  
Carole Williams

Past-President  
Director Emeritus

Peyton Lingle  
Buddy Sullivan

Committee Chairpersons

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Ft. King George    | Steven Smith     |
| Membership         | Carol Churi      |
| Programs           | Howard Klippel   |
| Scholarship        | Ann Howard       |
| Field Trips        |                  |
| Altamaha "Echoes"  | Carole Williams  |
| Publications/Books | Betty Cleveland  |
| Historian          | Buddy Sullivan   |
| Hospitality        | Everett Moriarty |
| Webmaster          | Jim Bruce        |
| Archives           | Casey McMillian  |

Life Memberships

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Muriel Bell               | Bill Jones III          |
| Marsha Certain            | David Miller            |
| Coastal GA Historical Soc | Chris & Ward Milner     |
| Darien Telephone Co.      | Bill & Sherry Minnich   |
| Mrs. Caroline B. Davis    | Barbara Poetzman        |
| John & Mary Dean          | Frances Pollard         |
| Enterprise Rent-A-Car     | John Reehling           |
| Lloyd Y. Flanders         | Sapelo National Bank    |
| Read Gignilliat           | Jeff & Kelly Spratt     |
| Gus & Marg Hallum         | Eloise Thompson         |
| Cecil & Sandra Hudson     | Jesse & Glenda Varnedoe |

Honorary Life Memberships

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Ralph Gill Jr.   | Myrtle Newberry      |
| Mattie Gladstone | Lillian Schaitberger |
| Everett Moriarty | Buddy Sullivan       |

**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)

Living History Programs for students and guests are a daily activity at the Fort.

**CANNONS ACROSS THE MARSH**

Saturday, July 3, 2010  
10 am – 4 pm

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

*Georgia Statewide Database of Public Notices*

In this country, politicians understand that the more you know about government, the better off we all are. So they created public notices to be printed in the newspaper. Georgia's newspapers go one step further and make public notices from all 159 counties in the state available in a free and searchable database online. It's fast. It's easy.  
[GeorgiaPublicNotice.com](http://GeorgiaPublicNotice.com).

