

# Altamaha Echoes

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Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

November 2011

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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, November 17, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Fort King George Historic Site**  
**Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza**

Ed Cawthon, one of our LAHS members, will present this month's program on "*Affair at South Newport.*" Join us as Ed shares this fascinating story of an attack by Federal troops on the Confederate post on the McIntosh County coast in August 1864.

Ed was raised in Brunswick, GA and graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in 1962. He sailed on United Fruit Ships as Third Mate, USNR, for 10 years. He worked ashore in the maritime industry for 36 years in various ports – from Port of New York to Liverpool, England to Oakland, CA to Savannah, GA. He has had a lifelong passion for history, especially local and family history. He is introduced these days as the father of Dr. Lara Bailey of Pine Harbor, McIntosh County.

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**LAHS CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
**Thursday, December 8, 2011, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Belvedere Island Plantation Clubhouse**

Bob and Jean Hawkins will once again host our annual covered-dish Christmas celebration at the Belvedere Island Plantation Clubhouse. The entrée, table setup and drinks will be provided by LAHS, and Everett Moriarty will "get the party started" with his famous eggnog. Sign-up sheets for your contribution to the meal and maps to the location will be provided at the November meeting, or you may call the Hawkins at 832-6588 for more information. The clubhouse is always decorated beautifully for the holiday season, the food is warm and inviting, and the fellowship is joyful! We look forward to seeing you there!

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*LET'S GET THE NEW YEAR GOING!*

**\* \* \* LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING \* \* \***  
**Thursday, January 19, 2012, 4:30 p.m.**  
**Fort King George Historic Site**  
**LAHS members are always welcome.**

## LAHS Meeting, Thursday, January 19, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

Fort King George Historic Site

Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza

Our speaker this month will be Janisse Ray. Her latest book, "*Drifting Into Darien*," a personal and natural history of the Altamaha River, is an account of her eight-day paddling voyage on the Altamaha River. Writer, naturalist and activist, Ms. Ray is author of several books of literary nonfiction and a collection of nature photography. She is on the faculty of Chatham University's low-residency MFA program and is a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow. She holds an MFA from the University of Montana, and in 2007 was awarded an honorary doctorate from Unity College in Maine.

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### *News from the Board of Directors:*

- *Jack Amason was enthusiastically elected Vice President at the August meeting and took office immediately.*
- *Lota Bryans has resigned as Secretary due to a work schedule conflict. Harriet Roberson has graciously agreed to fill the position through the current term.*
- *Carol Churi, Membership Chairperson, has created new name badges for each member. Please pick them up as you enter the meeting and deposit them in the badge container at the end of the meeting.*
- *For the four years we have had our Archives Building, we have been stepping up into it on a concrete block – which for us older folks especially is not the safest thing to be doing. We have needed and wanted and asked for help in getting some nice steps, and our last plea, made in August, brought forth a volunteer who offered to take care of the situation. Well, he not only took care of it, he designed and built a grand entrance, worthy of the nicest facility anywhere. Now you can enter the building on a nice wide landing, with railings on both sides, definitely something LAHS can brag about and be proud to have the public use. Many, many thanks to our architect-builder, Roy Williams, as well as his trusty assistant, Carole, his wife as well as our Echoes Editor. Come visit the Archives and see this wonderful addition!*  
*Harriet Roberson*

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### *Coming Events:*

*Saturday, November 12, 10 am - 4 pm, FORT KING GEORGE HISTORIC SITE, The Debatable Land Autumn Encampment.* A wide range of living history presentations will be given highlighting all the various cultures and peoples that inhabited our region before Georgia was established. A battle re-enactment takes place at 2 pm.

*Sunday, November 13, 3 pm, ASHANTILLY CENTER, The Darien Venture: Scotland's Forgotten Empire,* a presentation by Dr. Andrew Prescott and reception to follow. Call Ashantilly Center at 437-4473 for more information.

*Saturday, November 19, 7:00 pm, FORT FREDERICA NATIONAL MONUMENT, Lime Burn.* Watch a replica lime burn and learn how the Colonists made tabby.

*Saturday, December 10, 10 am - 4 pm, FORT FREDERICA NATIONAL MONUMENT, James E. Oglethorpe's Birthday.* Celebrate Oglethorpe's birthday in Colonial fashion.

**THANK YOU** once again to Harriet Roberson for arranging and coordinating another wonderful field trip – our latest outing was to the Jerusalem Lutheran Church (oldest church in America with an active congregation) and Georgia Salzburger Society Museum in Rincon, GA. Pictured below is our group who thoroughly enjoyed the tour of church, museum, and grounds, along with a photo of the sign that greets you as you enter the Church.



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**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

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

- Jill Juliano, Darien
- Linda & J.D. Daniels, Townsend
- Dr. & Mrs. Jack (Beverley) Proctor, Statesboro
  - Wayne & Marian Owens, Townsend
- Dr. & Mrs. Charles (Elizabeth) Houston, Jr., Darien

*The holidays are coming! Don't forget that a membership to LAHS would make a great gift – Family \$20, Individual \$15, Student \$5, Corporate \$100, and Life Membership \$250. If you have any membership questions, please contact Carol Churi via email at [cchuri@darientel.net](mailto:cchuri@darientel.net) or by phone 912-437-4477. Thank you.*

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**“THIS DAY IN GEORGIA HISTORY”**  
*(to coincide with LAHS Meeting Dates)*

*November 17, 1864:* This marked day three of the **MARCH TO THE SEA** for three of the four columns (Sherman and the 14<sup>th</sup> Corps started a day later). One of the important assignments was to destroy railroad tracks in their paths.

*December 8, 1735:* . . . James Oglethorpe sailed for Georgia from the port of Cowes on the Isle of Wight off the southern coast of England.

*January 19, 1871:* Savannah became the first city in America to celebrate Robert E. Lee’s birthday as a public holiday. Lee had a special relationship with Savannah, as this had been his first assignment following graduation from West Point in 1829.

*(compiled by Ed Jackson and Charles Pou, The University of Georgia, on the GeorgiaInfo website)*

**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.*

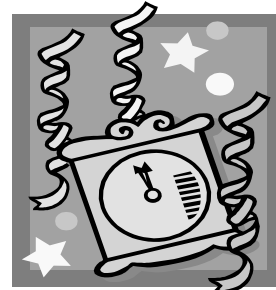
***A Colonial Christmas at Fort King George***

*Saturday, December 8, 2011*

*7:00 pm – 8:30 pm.*

*Join the garrison for a traditional dinner in the soldiers' barracks and an evening of colonial style Yule Tide jollification. **\$35.00 per person for dinner. RSVP***

**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.**



*HAPPY 2012!!*

LAHS Officers

President (2011-2013) Jack Godfrey 912-832-5822  
Vice-President (2011-2013) Jack Amason 912-832-5439  
Secretary (2010-2012) Harriet Roberson 912-265-6729  
Treasurer (2011-2013) Betty Cleveland 912-832-2166

Board Members 2010-2012

Betty Ewing  
Walter Pitts  
Dee Slagle  
Carole Williams

Board Members 2011-2013

Vivian Amason  
Martha Carney  
Carol Churi  
Linda Mock

Past-President Lloyd Y. Flanders  
Director Emeritus Buddy Sullivan

Committee Chairpersons

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

Life Memberships

Muriel Bell Bill Jones III  
Marsha Certain Harriet Langford  
Certus Bank 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 Jeff & Kelly Spratt  
Read Gignilliat Eloise Thompson  
Gus & Marg Hallman Jesse & Glenda Varnedoe  
Cecil & Sandra Hudson

Honorary Life Memberships

Ralph Gill Jr. Myrtle Newberry  
Mattie Gladstone Buddy Sullivan  
Everett Moriarty



Lower Altamaha Historical Society, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1405  
Darien, Georgia 31305