

# Altamaha Echoes

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Lower Altamaha Historical Society Newsletter

February 2012

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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, February 16, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Fort King George Historic Site**  
**Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza**

In recognition of Black History Month, Dr. William H. A. "Bill" Collins will review the contributions of Blacks in the medical profession, emphasizing doctors and other local medical practitioners.

Dr. Collins has family roots and connections in Harris Neck, Darien, Brunswick, Kings Bay and Woodbine, Georgia – intertwined with those in Nassauville, Jacksonville, Fernandina Beach and St. Petersburg, Florida. He is an able representative of the Gullah Geechee Corridor and culture of the coastal areas of Georgia and Florida, and shares his talents with people across the region and the nation. He has accumulated an array of credentials including – but not limited to – pharmacist, educator, counselor, certified choir director, minister of music, organist, consultant, entrepreneur, family genealogist, and more.

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**LAHS Meeting, Thursday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Fort King George Historic Site**  
**Dutch treat supper, 5:45 p.m. at B&J Pizza**

*"Water To My Soul: The Story of Eliza Lucas Pinckney"* will be presented by Pamela Bauer Mueller. This is Ms. Mueller's newest historical novel, and weaves a captivating tale about Eliza Lucas Pinckney's fight to bring wealth to the south through the production of indigo as a cash crop shortly before the American Revolution. Her remarkable success in the 18<sup>th</sup> century colonial world is a noteworthy achievement that required skill, luck and a strong personality. The fact that she did this while working within the enormous constraints faced by women makes her even more remarkable.

Pamela Bauer Mueller is a national award-winning author who resides on Jekyll Island with her husband Michael and two cats. She was raised in Oregon and worked as a flight attendant for Pan American Airlines before moving to Mexico City. There she taught English, modeled and acted for 18 years. After returning to the United States, she worked for 12 years as a U.S. Customs Inspector. She took an early retirement to become a full-time author.

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**LAHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Thursday, April 19, 2012, 4:00 p.m.**  
*(Please note new time)*  
**Fort King George Historic Site**  
**LAHS members are always welcome.**

**LAHS Meeting, Thursday, April 19, 2012, 7:00 p.m.**

**Fort King George Historic Site**

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

This month's program will be a presentation by the Altamaha Riverkeeper organization. The Altamaha Riverkeeper is a grassroots organization dedicated to the protection, defense and restoration of Georgia's biggest river – the Altamaha – including its tributaries the Ocmulgee, the Oconee and the Ochopee. History of the organization and current activities will be discussed.

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*News from the Board of Directors:*



- *A Nominating Committee will begin the search for members who would be willing to fill 4 Board positions and the Secretary slot – all are for 2-year terms. If you want to volunteer for one of these jobs or want to suggest someone else, please contact Jack or Vivian Amason at 832-5439. The Nominating Committee will make their report in April, elections are held in May, and those elected will assume their jobs in June.*
- *We wish to thank Bob Churi who has agreed to be in charge of putting out our Publications at membership meetings each month. Take time to look them over and buy something for you or as a gift for a friend from among all the interesting books LAHS publishes and/or Buddy Sullivan has written. There's lots of good history there!*

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**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

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

- *John Bruce, St. Simons Island*

*Counting all our membership categories, we now have 134 memberships in LAHS. That's lots of wonderful, friendly folks – if you haven't been to a meeting in a while, please come and join us soon as we have missed you and you are missing some very good programs!*

***IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN – 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 GA 31305, or give to Carol Churi, Membership Chairperson, or Betty Cleveland, Treasurer.*

*Please contact Carol Churi at 437-4477 or [cchuri@darientel.net](mailto:cchuri@darientel.net) with any questions regarding membership.*

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY  
APRIL 26, 2012



**FIELD TRIP:** For the last 22 years, Dr. John Derden, Professor Emeritus of History at East Georgia College, has conducted a tour of SHERMAN'S MARCH sites in his area of the state. This trip is coming up on Saturday, February 25th. This is a full day tour, beginning at 9 a.m. with pre-trip orientation in Room B 112 of the Student Services Complex at East Central College in Swainsboro. Dr. Derden will narrate the trip, telling local anecdotes, pointing out significant Union and Confederate campsites, Big Buckhead Church, and this year the Confederate military prison, Camp Lawton, which has been in the news lately because of recent archeological findings. Dr. Derden's trip includes all transportation and lunch for \$70.00 per person. A few members of LAHS have indicated an interest in this trip. We would have to leave Eulonia at 7 a.m. in order to be in Swainsboro on time. The trip ends at 6 p.m., and we would then head back home. If you are interested in making this trip or have any questions, please call me at 265-6729. If we get a group to commit, we will go for it - otherwise, not. Deadline is FEBRUARY 9th, and we will have to have the money by that time. This will not take the place of our regular trip somewhere closer, which is in the works for later in the spring. Harriet Roberson

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### *Coming Events:*

*Saturday, February 18, 10 am - 4 pm, FORT FREDERICA NATIONAL MONUMENT, Fort Frederica Festival.* This annual event commemorates the founding of Frederica in 1736 and provides an opportunity for visitors to participate in the history of the site.

*Saturday, February 18, 7 pm - 8:30 pm, FORT KING GEORGE HISTORIC SITE, Dinner With the General.* General James E. Oglethorpe and the Garrison would like to invite members of the public to a quaint colonial dinner in the enlisted soldiers barracks. Come share time with the founder of the colony of Georgia! **\$35 per person for the dinner, RSVP.**

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### "THIS DAY IN GEORGIA HISTORY" (to coincide with LAHS meeting dates)

**February 16, 1736** Around 7 p.m., James Oglethorpe and a small group left Savannah aboard a 10-oar boat for St. Simons Island. At around 11 p.m., they landed on Skidaway Island, where they ate a meal and then slept on the ground in their clothes with only a single blanket for warmth.

**March 15, 1858** Clergyman and author Edward R. Carter was born in Athens, GA. He was an African-American minister who became pastor of Atlanta's First Baptist Church in 1882. At the time, the church was \$3,000 in debt, but under Carter, the debt was erased and the church ended up with \$10,000 in assets. The money was put to good use, as Carter was influential in the founding of Spelman College.

**April 19, 1865** Returning to her home in Washington, GA, 24-year-old Eliza Frances Andrews wrote in her journal from Milledgeville of the previous day's events, including a brief meeting with one of Georgia's most famous poets: . . . "They began to evacuate the city (Macon) at dusk yesterday, and all through the night we could hear the tramp of men and horses, mingled with the rattle of artillery and baggage wagons . . . We were up almost by daylight, and even then found others starting to the depot ahead of us . . . We reached the depot at least an hour before the schedule time. . . Sidney Lanier was there, trying to get aboard one of the outgoing trains . . . The poor fellow is just up from a spell of typhoid fever, and looked as thin and white as a ghost. . . When the Central train backed up, there was such a rush to get aboard that I thought we would have the life squeezed out of us. I saw one man knock a woman down and run right over her. I hope the Yankees will catch him . . . Source: *Eliza Frances Andrews, The War-Time Journal of a Georgia Girl: 1864-1865* (New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1908), pp. 155-159.

**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.*

**Scottish Heritage Day – Spring Encampment**

*Saturday, March 24, 2012*

*10 am – 4 pm*

*A variety of living history demonstrations devoted to  
Scottish and colonial culture will be featured. A Battle  
re-enactment will take place at 2 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.**



*Happy Presidents' Day  
February 20, 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 Bob Churi  
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