

A.W. Jones Heritage Center
610 Beachview Drive
St. Simons Island

Admin Offices: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., M-F
Store: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., M-Sat
1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m., Sun

Lighthouse Museum
101 12th Street
St. Simons Island

**World War II
Home Front Museum**
4201 1st Street, East Beach
St. Simons Island

Museum Hours of Operation
10 a.m. – 5 p.m., M-Sat
1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m., Sun
Last tickets sold: 4:30 p.m.

Museum Admission Fees

Single Tickets
\$12 Adults
\$6 Ages 6-12

Combined Tickets
\$20 Adults
\$10 Ages 6-12

\$2 Military discount with ID
Children under 6 and Society
members are admitted
free of charge.

ACCREDITED BY THE



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2019 CHAUTAUQUA LECTURE SERIES

Georgia Roots, National Influence: Four Noted Americans Who Called Georgia Home

Join us in August as we explore the lives of four Georgia natives whose personal journeys took them beyond the South to positions of national renown and influence. How did their early years shape their lives? Did their Georgia heritage affect those around them?

On **August 8, Andrew Phillips**, curator of the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library in Staunton, Virginia, will kick off the series with a program entitled **“Ellen Axson Wilson: First Georgian in the White House.”** Though she died during her husband’s first term as President, Ellen Wilson was an influential force during his rise to power as president of Princeton University and governor of New Jersey. Born in Savannah, Wilson grew up in Rome, Georgia, where her father was a Presbyterian minister. She was a skilled artist, who studied at the Art Students League in New York before her marriage. Her interests as First Lady were wide ranging, from supporting public welfare to creating the White House Rose Garden.



Ellen Axson Wilson surrounded by her own artwork, circa 1912. Courtesy of Library of Congress.

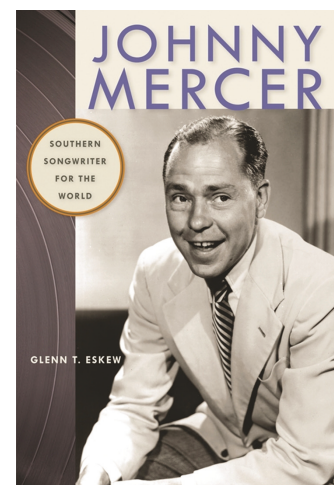
Phillips received a B.A. in history and Civil War era studies from Gettysburg College and an M.A. in museology from the University of Washington. He worked in collections at the Wing Luke Asian Museum in Seattle, Washington, and the Fairfax Museum in Virginia prior to becoming curator of the Wilson Presidential Library.

2019 Chautauqua Lecture Series

Continued from front cover

The topic for the **August 15** lecture is the life and influence of Savannah native Johnny Mercer, who moved to New York in 1927 and became a leading figure in the American music scene. Perhaps best known for the Academy Award-winning song “Moon River,” Mercer wrote lyrics for over a thousand songs, often inspired by his Georgia heritage. **Author and historian Glenn Eskew, Ph.D., will present “Johnny Mercer: Southern Songwriter for the World.”** His lecture is based on his biography of the same name, which received the Malcolm and Muriel Bell Award from the Georgia Historical Society.

A widely published professor of history at Georgia State University and the recipient of numerous awards, Eskew has lectured on southern topics across the United States and in Europe, Asia, and South America. He received his B.A. from Auburn University and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Georgia.

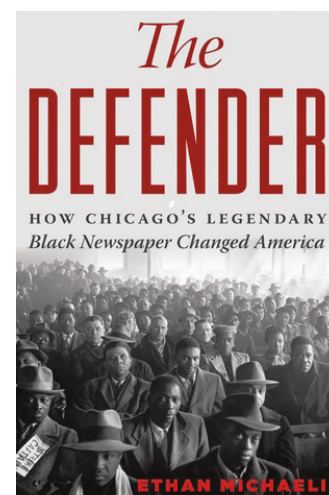


In recognition of our series' inspiration, the **August 22** program will feature a Chautauqua-style living history presentation. Humanities scholar and a creator of the modern Chautauqua movement, **Clay Jenkinson will present “A Beautiful Southern Woman: Martha Bulloch Roosevelt through the Eyes of Her Son Teddy.”** Jenkinson will portray the character of Theodore Roosevelt and describe the life and influence of the President's mother, Martha “Mittie” Bulloch of Roswell, Georgia. Through Mittie, Roosevelt counted the first governor of Georgia, Archibald Bulloch, and other prominent Georgians as his forebears.

A native of North Dakota, Jenkinson is host of the nationally syndicated radio program *The Thomas Jefferson Hour* and is author of several books on prominent Americans, including *A Free and Hardy Life – Theodore Roosevelt's Sojourn in the American West*. A graduate of the University of Minnesota and a Rhodes Scholar at the University of Oxford, Jenkinson is a winner of the National Humanities Medal and has appeared in three Ken Burns documentaries, including *The Roosevelts: An Intimate History*.

The series will conclude on **August 29** with the lecture entitled “**Robert Abbott and the Legendary Newspaper that Changed America.**” A St. Simons Island native, Robert Abbott founded *The Chicago Defender* in 1905 after moving north. John Sengstacke, Abbott's Savannah-born nephew and successor as publisher of the newspaper, will also be discussed. *The Defender* grew to have the highest circulation of any African-American owned newspaper in the world. Our speaker, **Ethan Michaeli**, is author of the critically acclaimed book, *The Defender: How the Legendary Black Newspaper Changed America*, which was named a Notable Book of 2016 by *The New York Times* and the *Washington Post*.

After earning a degree in English language and literature from the College at the University of Chicago, Michaeli worked as a copy editor and reporter at *The Defender* in the 1990s. He founded the *Residents' Journal*, a magazine for Chicago public housing tenants, which won numerous national awards and grants. He currently lectures at the University of Chicago's Harris Public Policy School and is senior advisor at the Goldin Institute.



The programs will take place on Thursday evenings, August 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 6 p.m. in the A.W. Jones Heritage Center Event Hall. The cost of the series is \$50 for members and \$95 for non-members. Registration is required. To register, visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org or call (912)634-7090.



The 2019 Chautauqua Lecture Series is sponsored by Wells Fargo Advisors.

Preservation Project on Little St Simons Island



During the first week of May, archaeologist Marie Meranda supervised an excavation on the north end of Little St. Simons Island at the old house site, known as Quash's House. She was assisted by the Society's Archaeology Lab Manager Myrna Crook, Georgia Southern University graduate student Scott Clark, and volunteers Deana Davis and Billy Bice. The project is a partnership between Little St. Simons and the Coastal Georgia Historical Society, which processed and will curate the artifacts.

Little St. Simons has been concerned about deterioration of the chimney, pictured here. It was decided that a four-posted structure should be built to protect these remains from the elements. The footers will be located where they have the least impact on, and disturbance to, the archaeology. Two previous research excavations, conducted by Dr. Ray Crook from the University of West Georgia in 1991 and 1994, provided pertinent information about the construction and use of the structure. The finds from the 2019 excavation have proven to be consistent with those from the previous digs.

Remembering Ellen Fleming

The Society is saddened by the passing of Ellen Fleming, who served on our board of directors from 2012 to 2017. As co-chair of the Collections and Education Committee, she worked diligently to enhance programming for school children and families. She generously contributed her time and expertise to the Society and many other civic organizations. She will be greatly missed!



Calendar of Events

World War II Home Front Museum June Hours

To celebrate summer, opening hours will be extended on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the month of June!

Tuesdays and Thursdays

10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, please call the Home Front Museum Store at (912) 634-7098.

Little Light Music Concerts

7-9 p.m. • Lighthouse Lawn

Adults \$15; Children under 12 and Keepers of the Light are free

June 16

Loose Chain

July 14

The Funk Brotherhood

September 1

Sounds of Motown

Chautauqua Lecture Series

6 p.m. • A.W. Jones Heritage Center Event Hall

Cost for the Series: CGHS Members \$50;

Non-members \$95

August 8

"Ellen Axson Wilson: First Georgian in the White House"

Andrew Phillips

August 15

"Johnny Mercer: Southern Songwriter for the World"

Glenn Eskew, Ph.D.

August 22

"A Beautiful Southern Woman: Martha Bulloch Roosevelt through the Eyes of Her Son Teddy"

Clay Jenkinson

August 29

"Robert Abbott and the Legendary Newspaper that Changed America"

Ethan Michaeli

Lecture and Book Signing

September 26

"Interpreting the Human Geography of the Georgia Coast"

Paul M. Pressly, Ph.D.

6 p.m. • A.W. Jones Heritage Center Event Hall
CGHS Members free

Most events require pre-registration.
For more information on programs and the Society's hours of operation, please call (912) 634-7090 or visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

Membership Highlights!

Thank you to those who have generously upgraded their membership.

Keeper of the Light

Peggy Hatcher—*Sustainer*

General

Stephen Landis—*Curator*

Ann and Trammell Newton—*Family*

Ed and Toni Saboe—*Assistant Keeper*

Welcome New Members

Keeper of the Light

Annette Wheeler and Dan Kelly—*Patron*

Beth and Ed Carpenter—*Sustainer*

General

Alana Andrews

Sandy Bair

Charlotte Bennett

Susan Daniell

George Dupuy

Jim Ervine

Paul Gallogly

Patti and Pat Montgomery

Leann Pask

Sylvia Shearer

Ben Sterling

Vickie Simmons

Frances Tadda

Laurie and Charles VanSwearingen

Memorial Gifts/Honorariums

In memory of Perry Blackshear
from Marguerite and Frank Owens

In honor of Maxine Lincoln's 100th Birthday
from Diane and David O'Hagan

Commemorative Bricks and Benches

Diana and Bruce Jacobs

Marcia Proctor

Lesli Mitchell

Matching Gifts

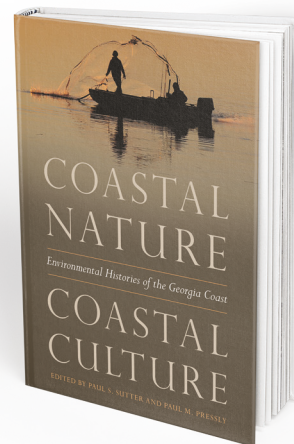
Starbucks Foundation

Lecture and Book Signing

Interpreting the Human Geography of the Georgia Coast—Paul M. Pressly, Ph.D.

At first glance, the Georgia coast seems to be a place where nature reigns. But on second look, a deep and diverse human history emerges. Nature and culture have co-existed and interacted across five millennia of human history, and those interactions have shaped the Georgia coast as we know it today. Successive communities of Native Americans, Spanish missionaries, rice planters, enslaved Africans, lumbermen, vacationing industrialists, pulp and paper manufacturers, nature writers, and environmental activists have developed distinctive relationships with the environment and produced unique coastal landscapes.

On September 26, 2019 at 6 p.m. in the A.W. Jones Heritage Center Event Hall, Paul M. Pressly, Ph.D. will present the lecture, "Interpreting the Human Geography of the Georgia Coast." His presentation is based on the recently published book *Coastal Nature, Coastal Culture: Environmental Histories of the Georgia Coast*, co-edited by Pressly and Paul S. Sutter. Released by University of Georgia Press in 2018, this collection of original essays by leading historians, scientists, environmental writers, and activists is based on papers presented at the 2016 Coastal Nature, Coastal Culture symposium, hosted by the Ossabaw Island Education Alliance and Ossabaw Island Foundation.



Dr. Pressly received a B.A. in history from Princeton University, an M.P.A. from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in history from University of Oxford. He is an award-winning historian and is currently the Director Emeritus of the Ossabaw Island Education Alliance.

To register, visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org or call (912) 634-7090.

Honoring our Volunteers



The Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was held on April 17 at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center to thank all of the Society's wonderful volunteers. Individuals who contributed over 100 hours of service in 2018 were honored with a special gift. The recipient of the 2018 Volunteer of the Year award, Pat Overholt, was also recognized. Thank you to Board Member Janis Rodriguez for planning the event. Pictured left to right: Larry Bacon, Les Breen, Janis Rodriguez, Mary Shell, Robin White, and Pat Overholt. Not pictured: Jim Barnett, Myrna Crook, Nancy Jenkins, and Anne Thigpen.



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COASTAL GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2019 Board of Directors

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Lewis Glenn, **Immediate Past President**
Duane Harris, **Vice President**
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Janis Rodriguez, **Collections and Education**
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Sherri Jones, **Executive Director**
Mimi Rogers, **Curator**

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Home Front Museum
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Store Manager
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Events Coordinator
Jessica Aldridge

Museum Store Buyer
Sally McLean

Let us hear from you!

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Mail: P.O. Box 21136, St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Online: Visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org
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