

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
12 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

12 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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Fall Membership Meeting



*Parade of unemployed workers, New York City, May 1909.
Courtesy of Library of Congress.*

The Secret Meeting at Jekyll Island and the Creation of the Federal Reserve

In November 1910, three bankers, two Congressmen, a professor, and a secretary met secretly at the Jekyll Island Club to reorganize America's banking system. While many agreed that the American economy suffered from booms and busts, few agreed how to fix it. Led by U.S. Senator Nelson Aldrich, the group drew up plans for a central bank with branches across the country. The remedy put in place three years later – the Federal Reserve System – was rather different from the original conception, but owed much to Aldrich's Jekyll Island plan. Its impact and effectiveness are still being debated.

On Thursday, November 14, historian Scott Reynolds Nelson, Ph.D. will discuss the Jekyll Island meeting and the personalities and events that shaped the Federal Reserve Act. Dr. Nelson is Professor of History at the University of Georgia and the prizewinning author of five books on 19th century American history. His book, *Steel Drivin' Man*, about the life and legend of John Henry, won four national awards, including the National Award for Arts Writing. *Business Week* named his latest book, *A Nation of Deadbeats: An Uncommon History of America's Financial Disasters* as one of the best business books of 2012. He is currently writing a book

Membership Highlights!

Thank you to those who have generously upgraded their membership.

Keeper of the Light

Louise and Keith Calhoun—*Patron*
Brenda and Larry Thompson—*Patron*

General

Andrea and Richard Altman—*Assistant Keeper*
Susan and Jeff Layman—*Curator*
Peggy and Bill Pitt—*Assistant Keeper*
Arthur Pittman—*Curator*
John Ryman—*Curator*
John A. Tuten—*Curator*

Welcome New Members

Keeper of the Light

Elsa and Craig Donohue—*Sustainer*
Ferrell Scruggs Foundation—*Sustainer*
Jim and Frances Kielt—*Sustainer*

General

LaTanya Abbot-Austin—*Individual*
Gayle Baker—*Individual*
James Bruce—*Individual*
Gayle and Lawson Calhoun—*Curator*
Tracy Carver—*Family*
Nancy Chastain—*Family*
Susan Clark—*Family*
George Dupuy—*Individual*
Pamela Eastman—*Individual*
Marcia Farber—*Individual*
Rhee and Michael Fincher—*Family*
Yvonne Flowers—*Family*
Chantez Ford—*Individual*
Don Fox—*Individual*
Audrey Gibbond—*Individual*
Timothy Henning—*Family*
Maggie and George Hodges—*Family*
Kathy Hubsch—*Individual*
Margaret Hutchinson—*Individual*
Patrick and Kathleen Kelley—*Family*
Diana and Stephen Kelley—*Family*
John Limburg—*Family*
Jane Madaj—*Curator*
Stacy and Chris Mallet—*Family*
Walker McGraw—*Individual*
Kim and Brian Merck—*Family*
Dwight Moody—*Individual*
Sharon Parkham—*Individual*
Leann Pask—*Curator*
Sam Portis—*Individual*
Viviana Rodriguez—*Individual*
Karen and Rolf Sannes—*Family*
Mark Semmelmayr—*Family*
Jeffrey Shue—*Individual*
Lisa and Paul Shulten—*Family*
Gary Siebein—*Family*
Arlene Stovall—*Family*
Mike and Matilon Tillitski—*Lamplighter*
Linda Ursey—*Family*
Chet and Christine Walker—*Family*
Martha and Nathan Williams—*Family*

Fall Membership Meeting

The Secret Meeting at Jekyll Island and the Creation of the Federal Reserve



Scott Reynolds Nelson, Ph.D.

Continued From Front Cover

about the international Panic of 1873 as a turning point in history. Earlier this year, he was awarded a prestigious Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship in support of his scholarly research.

The membership meeting will be held at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center on Thursday, November 14 at 6 p.m. Members attend free of charge and the cost for non-members is \$10. Registration is required by visiting coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

Thanks to Our Sponsors

Chautauqua Lecture Series

The Society would like to thank Wells Fargo Advisors for sponsoring the 2019 Chautauqua Lecture Series. Thank you to Marion Moore, Tim Bertscha, David Clements, Amy Banks and Lucy Thomas for making this year's Lecture Series a success. Lectures are available for viewing on our website or on DVD. You may borrow a DVD by stopping by the Society's administrative offices. Please note Clay Jenkinson's lecture is only available on DVD.



Little Light Music Concert Series

Another fun-filled Little Light Music Concert Series comes to an end. We would like to thank our wonderful sponsors for the 2019 season. Our sponsors not only help support the Society, but they also partner with us to serve the community.



Discovery



Since 2012, the Society has partnered with the St. Simons Land Trust to curate and store artifacts discovered during archaeological projects at Cannon's Point Preserve. Recently, sherds from a Native American vessel were assembled at the Society's Archaeology Lab by Georgia Southern graduate student Scott Clark (pictured above) and CGHS Board Member Myrna Crook. The vessel featured intricate rows of decoration impressed into the clay body 4,000-4,500 years ago. Known as St. Simons Punctated, the design was probably made using a periwinkle shell.

Remembering Dr. Irwin Berman



The Society is saddened by the passing of longtime friend and supporter, Dr. Irwin Berman. Dr. Berman was actively involved for four decades and served on the Board of Directors from 1982-1993. His guidance was crucial in obtaining AAM accreditation, and he generously donated artifacts to our collection. He was a lead donor of the World War II Home Front Museum and arranged a generous bequest for future support of the Society.

In 2017, he received the Rodriguez Service Award recognizing his years of service. He will be greatly missed!

Tree Dedication at the Home Front Museum

The Board of Directors and Campaign Committee generously donated a Live Oak tree honoring the leadership of Sherri Jones and Mimi Rogers in creating the World War II Home Front Museum. At an event on June 4, a plaque was unveiled, commemorating their commitment to bringing this project to fruition.



Pictured left to right: John Dunham, Lewis Glenn, Mimi Rogers, Sherri Jones, Bill Jones III, Linda Heagy, Gene Rackley, Duane Harris

Museum News

Effective October 1, both Museums will open at noon on Sunday. Also, admission tickets are available for advance purchase in both stores.

Museum Store Holiday Open House

Bring your shopping list and join us for the Holiday Open House from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 9! Enjoy 20% off storewide and special members-only events throughout the day including breakfast, **a wine tasting demonstration from 1 – 2 p.m.**, and the chance to win a holiday door prize! New and exclusive merchandise will be introduced and select vendors will be displaying their latest products. **Larry Hobbs will be available at 10 a.m.** to sign copies of his books, *Coast Tales: True Historic Stories from Georgia's Golden Isles* and *A Historical Crash Course on Coastal Georgia and the Golden Isles*. **Buddy Sullivan will be on hand at 11 a.m.** to sign his new books, *Thomas Spalding – Antebellum Planter of Sapelo*, *Life & Labor on Butler Island: Rice Cultivation in the Altamaha Delta*, and *Blackbeard Island: A History*. **Amy Roberts and co-author Patrick J. Holladay, Ph.D. will be there at 1 p.m.** to sign copies of *Gullah Geechee Heritage in the Golden Isles*.

Buddy Sullivan Local History Course

Buddy Sullivan will present his six-week history course, An Overview of Coastal Georgia History, on Tuesday afternoons January 14 – February 18, 2020, from 4 – 6 p.m. at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center. The cost is \$65 for CGHS members and \$110 for non-members. Registration required.

Annual Membership Meeting

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, award-winning British journalist **Ed Caesar will present “The Epic Hunt for a Lost World War II Aircraft Carrier” on Sunday, January 19, 2020 at 3 p.m. at The Cloister.** Caesar will describe the 1942 sinking of the aircraft carrier USS *Wasp* in the Coral Sea and the fascinating modern day efforts to locate World War II shipwrecks. An author and contributing writer to *The New Yorker*, Caesar has also written stories for *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, and *Smithsonian Magazine*. There is no charge for members. The cost for non-members is \$25. Registration required.



Holiday Open House November 9

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Museum Store
Book Signings
Larry Hobbs • 10 - 11 a.m.
Buddy Sullivan • 11 a.m. - noon
Amy Roberts • 1 - 2 p.m.

Fall Membership Meeting November 14

“The Secret Meeting at Jekyll Island and the Creation of the Federal Reserve”
Scott Reynolds Nelson, Ph.D.
6 p.m. • A.W. Jones Heritage Center Event Hall
CGHS members free; non-members \$10

An Overview of Coastal Georgia History January 14– February 18

Buddy Sullivan
4 – 6 p.m. • A.W. Jones Heritage Center Event Hall
CGHS members \$65; non-members \$110

Annual Membership Meeting January 19

“The Epic Hunt for a Lost World War II Aircraft Carrier”
Ed Caesar

3 – 4 p.m. • The Cloister at Sea Island
CGHS members free; non-members \$25

All Society events require registration.
For more information on programs and the
Society's hours of operation, please visit
coastalgeorgiahistory.org.



Summer Programming Highlights

Pop-Up History

If you visited the World War II Home Front Museum or the St. Simons Lighthouse Museum and Keeper's Dwelling on a weekday this summer, you might have dropped in on one of our pop-up programs! Education Director Sandy Jensen and Home Front Museum Site Manager Kim Campbell took visitors on deeper dives into historical topics within the galleries, with a special emphasis on engaging our younger visitors. At the Lighthouse, children learned more about our Fresnel lens and saw how small today's 1,000-watt light bulb is.

They also explored the strict uniform regulations lighthouse keepers had to follow. At the Home Front Museum, our young visitors learned more about maritime communication, which included breaking a coded message using International Signal Flag Code. We even celebrated National Doughnut Day while discussing the history of civilian aid organizations under the Terry Thomas Pavilion. Pictured left are visitors learning to roll the type of bandage that was sent overseas during World War II.

Chautauqua Series

The final lecture in the 2019 Chautauqua Series, "Robert Abbott and the Legendary Newspaper that Changed America," was presented by award-winning author Ethan Michaeli on August 29. The following day, Michaeli presented programs on Abbott to social studies students at Brunswick High and Glynn Academy. Members of the Abbott-Sengstacke family and board members of the Robert S. Abbott Race Unity Institute in Brunswick attended the program. Artist Kevin Pullen's sculpture of Robert Abbott with *Chicago Defender* newsboys was on display for the lecture.



Pictured left to right: front row, Kevin Pullen, Sherri Jones, Myiti Sengstacke-Rice, Viola Abbott, LaTanya Abbott-Austin, Carolyn Carver, Donna Bassett; back row, Ethan Michaeli, Joslyn DiPasalegne, Ken Rice, Andrea Lawson.

Thank You, Members!

The Society is truly fortunate to have a strong and loyal group of members, which now numbers more than 800 individuals and families. With your support, we preserve two of Coastal Georgia's iconic sites – the St. Simons Lighthouse and Keeper's Dwelling and the Historic Coast Guard Station, home of the new World War II Home Front Museum. Your support has also enabled the Society to expand its impact as an educational and cultural center.

The Society is particularly indebted to our leadership group – the Keepers of the Light – who serve as stewards and steadfast advocates of our mission. The Keeper of the Light category was established in 2008 with 10 memberships, contributing \$1,000 each. Today it has grown to 180 memberships, each

contributing \$1,000 – \$10,000 annually. During 2018, unrestricted Keeper of the Light contributions exceeded \$255,000, representing 18% of the Society's general operating budget.

As the Society continues to expand its programs and maintain its museums, unrestricted support is critical. ***When you renew your membership, please consider making a greater investment in our future by becoming a Keeper of the Light.*** For more information, contact our Development and Membership Coordinator Nina Witman at (912) 634-7096, or nwitman@coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

Thank you for your continued support!



P.O. BOX 21136
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COASTAL GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Lewis Glenn, **Immediate Past President**
Duane Harris, **Vice President**
Mike Martin, **Finance**
Janis Rodriguez, **Collections and Education**
Mary Schellhorn, **Development**
Sherri Jones, **Executive Director**
Mimi Rogers, **Curator**

Keith Calhoun	Jeanne Kaufmann
Kay Cantrell	Reg Murphy
Myrna Crook	Jan Payne
Jim DeLong	Janis Rehlaender
David Furnish	Bill Stembler
Lucy Glasebrook	Brenda Thompson
Tom Heagy	

Staff

Executive Director
Sherri Jones

Curator
Mimi Rogers

Education Director
Sandy Jensen

Public Relations Director
Leigh Ann Stroud

Development Coordinator
Nina Witman

Senior Historian: Buddy Sullivan
Consulting Archaeologist: Nick Honerkamp, Ph.D.

**World War II
Home Front Museum
Site Manager**
Kim Campbell

Office Manager
Marsha Johnson

Director of Retail Operations
Ben Sterling

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

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St. Simons Light

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Parade of unemployed workers, New York City, May 1909. Courtesy of Library of Congress.

The Secret Meeting at Jekyll Island and the Creation of the Federal Reserve

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Jeanne Kaufmann Reg Murphy Jan Payne Janis Rehlaender Bill Stembler Brenda Thompson		Education Director Sandy Jensen	Director of Retail Operations Ben Sterling
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