



VOLUME 47, NUMBER 1

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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SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Moving Beyond Tabby: Georgia's Coastal Archaeology as a Critical Link to the Antebellum Atlantic World

On Thursday, April 2, at 6 p.m., archaeologist Lindsey Cochran, Ph.D., will present a lecture on how Georgia's coastal plantations hold more than meets the eye. Though the majority of archaeological research has focused on above ground tabby slave cabins, new evidence suggests an earlier housing style that is rooted in African and Caribbean architecture. The open test site in the photograph above shows the location of a wattle and tabby daub slave cabin on Sapelo Island, Georgia. In the background, students stand on possible locations of two similar cabins. *(continued on page 2)*

Journeys: St. Catherines Island



On Thursday, May 7, at 6 p.m., Archaeologist David Hurst Thomas, Ph.D., will present a lecture entitled "Unearthing Georgia's Deep History: Still Digging at Mission Santa Catalina," drawn from his four decades of research on St. Catherines Island, situated south of Savannah. He discovered and has systematically excavated the site of the Spanish Mission to the Guale people (1570–1680). *(continued on page 5)*

Membership Highlights!

Thank you to those who have generously upgraded their membership.

Keeper of the Light

Elkin Alston—Patron
Vicki and James Bell—Sustainer
Ellen and Diane Kinsey Dempsey—Benefactor
Ralph and Sandy Jernigan—Patron
Patty and Rich Mallicote—Sustainer
Dana and Jim Manning—Benefactor
Janis and Jim Rehlaender—Patron

General

Debbie and Larry Brown-Family Dale and Paul Cronin-Assistant Keeper Kathleen and Kevin Flynn-Assistant Keeper Susan and Alton Garrett-Assistant Keeper Marti and Bill Jeffers-Family Judy and Alex Johnson-Curator Barry and Jim Kaminer-Family Donald McCue and Carol Koracin—Lamplighter Catherine and Stan Kyker-Family Linka and Charles Lewis-Curator Annette and Robert Miller-Curator Karin and Larry Mills-Family Patricia and R. Mark Lusted-Curator Eileen and Clay Scofield-Curator Bruce Tripp, M.D. -Curator Neile Weis-Family Betty Woodward and Allen Gann-Lamplighter

Welcome New Members

Keeper of the Light

Emily Ellison and Chuck Perry—Sustainer Rick and Sharon Fownes—Sustainer Betty Oliver and Robert Fischer, In memory of A.C. and Evelyn Oliver—Sustainer Wayne* and Sara Sheffield—Sustainer Karen and Tommy Vance—Sustainer

General

Suzanne Anderson and Louis Flament-Family John Blackerby- Individual Anne and Hunt Brown-Family Mike and Gerry Collins-Family John Cowlishaw-Individual Nancy Connaughton-Individual Martha Demere-Curator Noelle Douglas-Family Philip Driscoll-Individual April Earehart-Family Nancy and Vincent Fazio-Family Pam Foster-Individual Beth Guzman-Individual Genny and Tom Hamman-Family Peggy and Slade Johnson-Curator Don Kalen-Family Catherine King-Individual Susan Long-Individual Marcie and Brian Mallin-Curator James Morrison—Individual Candace and Warren Murphey-Family Gail Nagle-Individual Michael Negles-Lamplighter Stephen Nelms-Individual Dianne and David Neville-Family Pookie and George Nuse-Family Craig Pope-Family Marion and William Powers-Family Maureen Proctor-Individual Catherine Quinn-Individual William Rawlings—Family Sharon Stiteler-Curator Susan and Alex Thompson—Family Katherine Towles-Individual Philip Wallingford—Family Barbara and Ken Watts-Family Cary and Herron Weems-Assistant Keeper Sherie and William Welch-Family Karen and Tod Welsh-Family Jean Weidenaar-Curator Al Wessel-Family

Lois and Danny Yates—Family Memorial and Tribute Gifts

In memory of Julian Scott CAP at SSI WWII—Albert Fendig
In memory of Belinda Butler—Susan McMillan
Bequest—In memory of Sara Taylor

*deceased

Moving Beyond Tabby



Continued From Front Cover

By examining the total plantation landscape, archaeologists can reveal intricate connections to the broader Atlantic world, highlighting Georgia's truly unique role in global plantation culture.

Dr. Cochran is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the

University of Georgia's Laboratory of Archaeology, having received her doctorate from the University of Tennessee.

She has worked on the Georgia coast for over ten years, focusing on blending questions about the lives of enslaved people and the world in which they lived with cutting-edge geospatial, statistical, and geophysical methodologies. She currently works to create digital models that predict the location of unidentified archaeological sites using data from known sites in the Georgia Archaeological State Site Files. She is also examining the impact of climactic changes on archaeological sites along Georgia's coast.

Members attend the lecture free of charge. The cost for non-members is \$10. Registration is required by visiting coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

A Growing Membership!

Last quarter, the Society welcomed 48 new individuals and families to our membership, almost double the number of new members during the same period in the prior year. We also had 24 members generously increase their level of annual giving. The Society is truly fortunate to have the dedicated support of more than 900 individuals and families, the largest group in our 50-year history!

If you have any questions about membership, or would like to increase your level of giving, please contact our Membership/ Development Coordinator, Nina Witman, at (912) 634-7096 or visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org. Thank you for your loyal support!

ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

At the Society's Annual Meeting at The Cloister on January 19, award-winning British journalist Ed Caesar gave a moving description of the hunt for the World War II aircraft carrier *Wasp*, now resting at the bottom of the Coral Sea. Over 400 members and guests were in attendance. If you missed the meeting, you can view the program on our website. Also, we encourage you to pick up a copy of the 2019 Annual Report at the Society's administrative office.

Volunteer Awards

Cunningham Bowl



Since 1978, the Cunningham Bowl has been awarded to a volunteer who has performed exemplary service to the Society in the previous year. This year's recipient is Billie Huggins. She has been a volunteer for many years—first as a docent at the Lighthouse Museum and now at both museums. As a long-time resident, she knows many of our members and frequently helps with program registration. She assisted with content development for the

Coast Guard Gallery at the Home Front Museum, being in the unique position of having a family connection since her father was a member of the first crew at the St. Simons Station. As a docent at the Home Front Museum, she has shared her personal recollections of island life, providing our visitors with a memorable link to the past.

Rodriguez Service Award



At the Annual Meeting, Lewis Glenn was presented with the 2019 Rodriguez Service Award, which honors exemplary acts of stewardship and service to the Society. Lewis has served on the

Board of Directors since 2014, and in 2017 became President of the organization. Lewis' tireless energy, unceasing generosity, and contagious enthusiasm for the Society provided the leadership necessary to complete the new World War II Home Front Museum, one of the largest and most challenging projects in our 55-year history.

Both awards are on display in the lobby of the A.W. Jones Heritage Center.

Society Welcomes New Board Members







At the Annual Meeting, the Society announced the election of three new Board members: Mike Hodges, Michelle Johnston, and Susan Myers. The Society bids farewell and extends special thanks to outgoing Board members Kay Cantrell,

Mike Martin, Janis Rodriguez, and the late Sally Hawie.

Strategic Plan

The Board of Directors adopted the Society's new five-year strategic plan at its December board meeting.

Over the past ten years, the Society has expanded its scope and reach with the enhancement of existing sites and the addition of a new museum. The new focus will be outward-looking and use our extraordinary resources to connect with people across Glynn County, the state, and even the country.

Copies of the strategic plan are available in the Society's administrative office and on our website, coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

2020 Little Light Music Concert Series

May 3 The Tams

June 7 The Funk Brotherhood

July 5 Blue Denim Band

September 6 Sensational Sounds of Motown

Every summer, residents and visitors gather on the oceanfront lawn beneath the Lighthouse for the Little Light Music Summer Concert Series. Bring your family, friends, a picnic supper, and lawn chairs for this fun St. Simons Island tradition!

Concerts are from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults; children under 12 and Keepers of the Light are admitted free of charge. Tickets may be purchased in advance in the Museum Store or at the gate the evening of the concert. Check our website or Facebook page for news and weather updates during the concert season.

The Society is grateful for the support of the following sponsors of the 2020 Little Light Music concerts:















Georgia History Day



On February 7, Society
volunteer Cesar Rodriguez,
Education Director Sandy
Jensen, and World War II
Home Front Museum Site
Manager Kim Campbell
participated in the
annual Georgia History
Day at Oglethorpe Point

Elementary School. Cesar and Sandy spoke to fourth grade students about the St. Simons Lighthouse. Kim spoke to fifth grade students about the Coast Guard's role during World War II.



Spring Membership Meeting

April 2

"Moving Beyond Tabby: Georgia's Coastal Archaeology as a Critical Link to the Antebellum Atlantic World"

Lindsey Cochran, Ph.D. 6 p.m. • A.W. Jones Heritage Center CGHS members free; non-members \$10

Little Light Music Concerts

7-9 p.m. • Lighthouse Grounds \$15 per person Free: Children under 12 and Keepers of the Light

May 3

The Tams

June 7

The Funk Brotherhood



"Unearthing Georgia's Deep History: Still Digging at Mission Santa Catalina"

David Hurst Thomas, Ph.D. 6 p.m. • A.W. Jones Heritage Center CGHS members free, non-members \$10

May 12

Field Trip to St. Catherines Island

\$65 per person
Further details provided upon registration

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

Event Rentals

We are one of the only oceanfront venues on the island AND the only venue with an historic Lighthouse! If you are interested in booking an event, please email our Events Coordinator Jessica Aldridge at jaldridge@coastalgeorgiahistory.org or call (912) 506-0073.



Continued From Front Cover

He continues to conduct field schools on St. Catherines.Dr. Thomas has served as Curator of Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History (New York) since 1972. He has directed more than 100 archaeological excavations, including the discovery of Gatecliff Shelter in Nevada, the deepest archaeological rock shelter in the Americas. Since 1998, he has led excavations at Mission San Marcos, near Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is author and editor of dozens of books, including *St. Catherines: An Island in Time*, and he has lectured in 40 countries.

This year's field trip on Tuesday, May 12,

travels to the elusive St. Catherines Island. The island's 22,000 acres of salt marsh, barrier beaches, and maritime forest take up 10% of Georgia's coastline.

St. Catherines is known for its history and its diverse ecosystems. Since 1981, the island has been the center for the research, education, and conservation programs of the St. Catherines Foundation. The staff of the Foundation will be host to the Society during our field trip. Dr. Thomas will be on the island, leading an archaeological field school. Our tour will travel to the north end of the island to view historic structures and wildscapes, and possibly lemurs, before visiting the site Dr. Thomas and his crew are investigating.

The cost of the field trip is \$65, which includes a box lunch, boat transportation to the island, and an all-day tour. Tour participants will be responsible for getting to the departure dock on their own. Further information about departure location and the day's schedule will be provided upon registration.

Due to the private nature of the work on St. Catherine's Island, space on this field trip is extremely limited. Registration will only be available online at coastalgeorgiahistory.org. Registration will open at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, and close when full. Once purchased, tickets are non-refundable.

Partnering on History with the National Park Service



At the request of Fort Frederica's staff, the Society's archaeology laboratory used electrolysis to remove thick layers of rust from a cannonball found near Cumberland Island. The process took five months. To prevent future deterioration, the artifact was then coated in a thin layer of wax. Seen here are Society Curator Mimi Rogers and Lab Manager Myrna Crook returning the cannonball to Michael Seibert, the Fort's Resource Manager.

The Society also assisted the Fort with another project – a new nomination for the National Register of Historic Places. The Fort was first listed in the Register in 1978 based on historic documentation prepared in 1974. That documentation identified a single resource that included the fort, townsite, and Battle of Bloody Marsh site. The new nomination increases the boundary from 217.94 acres to a total of 304.49 acres. It also includes documentation for an expanded period of significance, some of which was developed through research in the Society's archives.

Winter Refresh

While the Museums were closed for inventory and maintenance in January, we were busy taking care of important projects!

At the World War II Home Front Museum, we completed a wall dividing the theater from the Correll Family Foundation Atrium in the Boathouse. This long-anticipated construction project is an excellent aesthetic complement to the surrounding galleries and is a part of our ongoing efforts to create the best experience possible for our visitors. The film is now contained in an immersive space that allows the visitor to experience the emotions felt by residents of Coastal Georgia as the world went to war.

A significant project was also completed at the Lighthouse Museum. Insulation in the Keeper's Dwelling attic was upgraded, and a new dehumidification system was installed to control moisture in the crawl space and attic as well as the public spaces. In the Heritage Center, the carpeting and upholstery were cleaned in the event hall and theater.



P.O. BOX 21136 ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GEORGIA 31522

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2020 Board of Directors

Executive Committee Kevin Lokey, President Lewis Glenn, Immediate Past President Duane Harris, Vice President Mary Schellhorn, Development Jim DeLong, Collections and Education Sherri Jones, Executive Director

Lucy Glasebrook

Staff

Executive Director

Curator

Education Director

Public Relations Director

Development Coordinator

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

> Office Manager Marsha Johnson

Director of Retail Operations

Events Coordinator

Museum Store Buyer

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

Let us hear from you!

Phone: (912) 634-7090; Fax: (912) 638-6609 Mail: P.O. Box 21136, St. Simons Island, GA 31522 Online: Visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org Be a Fan: Follow us on Facebook or Instagram