

# St. Simons

#### VOLUME 47, NUMBER 2

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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THE INSPIRING TRUE STORY OF THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS OF WORLD WAR II

# THE WOMEN WITH SILVER WINGS



## SUMMER 2020

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

The Women with Silver Wings A Lecture by Katherine Landdeck, Ph.D.

Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 6 p.m., Presented via Zoom

During World War II, as young men went overseas for combat, American women also sought ways to serve

their country. When the U.S Army

put out a call for women pilots, 25,000 applications poured in, and over 1,000 women completed the rigorous training to earn their silver wings. This ground-breaking group formed the Women Airforce Service Pilots, or WASP. Though not authorized to serve in combat, they helped train male pilots and ferried every type of military aircraft from factories to bases throughout the country.

On Thursday, September 17, 2020, historian Katherine Landdeck will join us via live video conferencing to discuss her new book about these intrepid aviators, *The Women with Silver Wings*. Dr. Landdeck, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee, is recognized globally for her *(continued on page 2)* 

# Membership Highlights!

Thank you to those who have generously upgraded their membership or increased their giving.

#### **Keeper of the Light**

Ada Lee and Pete Correll—Luminary Elsa and Craig Donohue—Benefactor Jane Beadles and John Dunham—Patron Lucy and Richard Glasebrook—Patron Carol and Duane Harris—Sustainer Jeannie Kaufmann and Roger Ryan—Luminary Marty and Pam Morris—Sustainer Kim and Tom Noonan—Patron Dana and Patrick Parker—Patron Cindy and Gene Rackley—Patron

#### General

Brenda and Frank Baker—Family Jo Bennett—Family Reese Bischoff—Curator James Bruce—Assistant Keeper Jody and Jim Fraser—Family Jessie Harrison—Curator Lauren and Lee Hopkins—Curator George Lawton—Curator Patti and Pat Montgomery—Curator Michael Mustard—Curator Camille Penders—Family Roberta and Ted Sortwell—Family

## Welcome New Members

### **Keeper of the Light**

Kris and Gordon Graham—*Sustainer* Michelle Johnston and Gene Pierce—*Sustainer* 

#### General

James Barnes—Family Michele and Stacy Bledsoe—Family Andrew Clements—Family Jerry Hardiman—Family Robert Lathrop—Curator Donna Leggett—Individual Keith Strigaro—Family Ted Williams—Family

### **Memorial and Tribute Gifts**

In memory of James Alexander Mr. and Mrs. David Brown Jewelers Mutual Insurance Mr. and Mrs. David Kerstetter Mrs. Judy Lyons Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Mason Mr. and Mrs. David Perez Sandpipers Ms. Marguerite Walker Mr. and Mrs. Jack Welch In memory of Gloria Ramsaur Mr. and Mrs. John Rogers In memory of Dorothy Bankston Wood Ms. Mary Perlman



# The Women with Silver Wings

#### Continued From Front Cover

research on WASP history. She is Associate Professor of History at Texas Women's University, home of the WASP archives. A Guggenheim Fellow at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and a pilot herself, she was a featured historian on the A&E/History Channel two-hour documentary on Pearl Harbor. In addition to work on other documentaries, she has written for *The Washington Post, The Atlantic,* and numerous academic and aviation publications.

Due to safety considerations, this program will be presented via Zoom, an easy-to-use video conferencing platform. To register, visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org. After registering, you will be sent an email with instructions on how to join the virtual presentation. Dr. Landdeck looks forward to joining us and answering any questions you may have about the women aviators of World War II.

This lecture is graciously sponsored by Raymond James.

# **RAYMOND JAMES**

# **Update on Society Operations**

#### Dear Friends,

The Lighthouse and Home Front Museums have been reopened for over two months now and are generating about 70% of budgeted admissions and store sales. I am grateful to our dedicated staff and volunteers who have kindly but firmly maintained the safety protocols that are protecting visitors as they experience our sites. We so appreciate our members whose financial support is on budget for the year! The Society is eliminating, reducing, or postponing expenses where we can, which has significantly reduced monthly outgoings. With the help of Federal PPP grants and loans and a grant from Georgia Humanities, I am hopeful that we should be able to operate debt-free for the remainder of the year.

As you will see from our front page article, the September 17 lecture on "The Women with Silver Wings" has been changed from an in-person program to a virtual event. Historian Katherine Landdeck had planned to be in Atlanta for an event immediately preceding ours, but that event was recently changed to virtual and she has suspended travel for her book tour for the remainder of the year. We hope you will sign up for our first private Zoom presentation! Thanks to your feedback in the member survey, we are also introducing limited attendance talks developed and presented by staff members, as described on page 5 of the newsletter. We appreciate your enthusiasm for our programming and your willingness to work with us to find new ways to interact.

The Society's new Strategic Plan 2020-2025 is ready for distribution! You can access the plan on our website coastalgeorgiahistory.org or please let us know if you would like us to mail you a copy. The new plan seeks to expand the organization's reach and impact through outreach, engagement, and new community partnerships. Over the next several years, we want to bring more students from across Coastal Georgia to our museums and take Society educators and programs into more classrooms. We will strive to be representative of the people and stories of our entire community through collections and programming and reach new audiences beyond the Society's facilities and St. Simons Island.

Please stay safe and healthy,

Sherri Jones



Funding has been provided by Georgia Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the CARES Act economic stabilization plan of 2020. For more information, please visit www.GeorgiaHumanities.org.

# Golden Ray Cutting Chain Link Donated



On June 24, representatives of the U.S Coast Guard visited the Heritage Center to donate a link of the anchor chain that will be used to cut the cargo ship Golden Ray into eight pieces. The 18-inch metal link weighs approximately 80 pounds. Seven 400-foot lengths of the chain were placed around the vessel and will be attached to the 255-foot tall gantries of heavy lift vessel VB-10,000 for cutting. The ship has been in St. Simons Sound since capsizing on September 8, 2019. Kevin Teichman of T&T Salvage, the vessel salvor, provided the link.

U.S. Coast Guard Cmdr. Efren Lopez (left) and Lt. Cmdr. Dan Donovan (right) from the St. Simons Sound Incident Response team present a link of the cutting chain to Sandy Jensen, CGHS Education Director. U.S. Coast Guard Photo by Chief Petty Officer John D. Miller.

# We Love our 2019 Volunteers!

Every April, we host the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon to thank our volunteers and honor those who have donated over 100 hours during the previous year. Even though we were unable to gather in person this year, the Society would still like to recognize our amazing and dedicated volunteers.

#### Volunteers who served more than 150 hours

Larry Bacon
Myrna Crook
Maggie Glennon

Janis Rodriguez Mary Shell

#### Volunteers who served more than 100 hours

Jim Barnett Chris Bone Les Breen Becky Bridges Nancy Chastain Don Gammon Billie Huggins

Carolyn Janssen Nancy Jenkins Tom Luckstone Bob Shell Anne Thigpen Robin White

# 2020 Little Light Music Concert Series

With regret, the Society is cancelling the Little Light Music Concert Series this year due to the pandemic. We will miss hosting this longstanding community tradition, but look forward to holding the Concert Series again next summer.

Thank you to our sponsors for their generous support, especially during these uncertain times.







## Rightfully Hers: Pop-up Display on Women's Suffrage

August 17–September 30 A.W. Jones Heritage Center

# Celebrating Women's Suffrage: Talks on Georgia Suffragists

August 26

11 a.m. and 3 p.m. A.W. Jones Heritage Center Event Hall Mimi Rogers and Kim Campbell

# The Women with Silver Wings

September 17

6 p.m. A Virtual Lecture by Katherine Landdeck, Ph.D.

Most Society 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.

# Stay Connected!

The Society is on social media! While the Museums were closed due to COVID-19, the staff began ramping up the Society's social media presence. Follow us on Facebook or find the Museums on Instagram at @stsimonslighthouse and @wwiihomefrontmuseum.

# Celebrating Women's Suffrage: Pop-up Display and Talks on Georgia Suffragists



In honor of the 100th anniversary of 19th Amendment ratification, the Society will present a pop-up display and a program on women's suffrage. The display entitled "Rightfully Hers" will be on view at the Heritage Center starting mid-August. Provided by the National Archives in partnership with the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, it traces the history of the movement to expand voting rights to millions of women, including African Americans.

On Wednesday, August 26, in celebration of Women's Equality Day, Society staff will present a short program in the Heritage Center Event Hall, highlighting prominent suffragists who were active in the South as early as the 1890s. Join us to learn about Helen Augusta Howard of Columbus, Georgia, who brought Susan B. Anthony to our state for the annual conference of the National American Woman Suffrage Association in 1895. Hear the fascinating story of Adella Hunt Logan, a graduate of Atlanta University, who taught at Tuskegee Institute and fought for the rights of all women, regardless of race. The program will be presented at 11 a.m. and again at 3 p.m. To enable social distancing, attendance will be limited to 20, and masks will be required. After the program, the display will be available for viewing. To register, visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

# Let's Stay in Touch!

Don't miss out on Society news! Please reach out to our Membership and Development Coordinator, Nina Witman, to make sure your mailing and email addresses are correct in our system. To update your records, email nwitman@coastalgeorgiahistory.org or call (912) 634-7096.



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

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### 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