



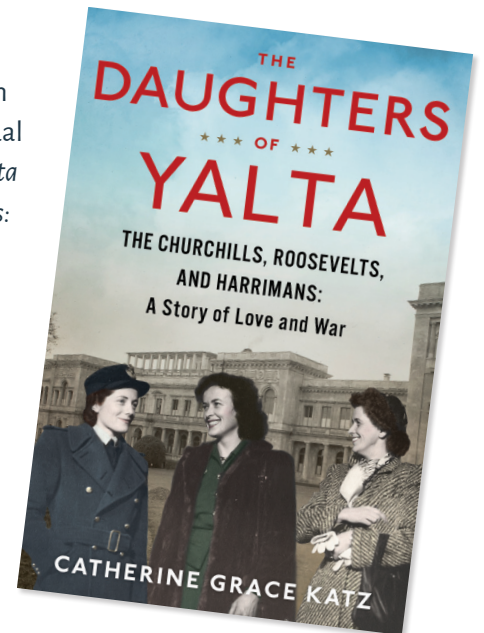
COASTAL GEORGIA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021

Spring Membership Meeting *The Daughters of Yalta*

On Thursday, April 15, at 6 p.m., historian Catherine Grace Katz will present a virtual lecture on her book, *The Daughters of Yalta* – *The Churchills, Roosevelts, and Harrimans: A Story of Love and War*. This is the untold story of the three young women who accompanied their famous fathers to the Yalta Conference in Crimea in February 1945, when the Allied leaders—Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt, and Joseph Stalin—met to shape the future world order in the closing months of World War II.



Katz's research on the topic began with her interest in the life of Sarah Churchill. An actress-turned-RAF officer, Sarah was devoted to her brilliant father who appreciated her astute political mind. She also made her mark on Coastal Georgia history with her impromptu wedding to British photographer Anthony Beauchamp at the Sea Island home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred W. Jones, Sr. in 1949.

Also featured are Kathleen Harriman and Anna Roosevelt. Harriman was a champion skier, war correspondent, and daughter of U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union Averell Harriman. Roosevelt's only daughter, Anna, was chosen instead of her mother Eleanor to accompany the president to Yalta. She had become her father's most trusted confidante during his third term in office, as his health declined.

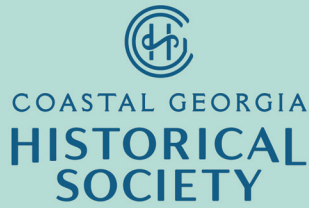
The Daughters of Yalta examines the complex relationships between these fathers and daughters against the backdrop of tense negotiations to secure world peace.



Catherine Grace Katz

A writer and historian from Chicago, Catherine Grace Katz holds degrees in history from Harvard University and the University of Cambridge. She is currently pursuing her J.D. at Harvard Law School.

This virtual program is free and open to the public. To register, visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org. A Zoom link to the lecture will be sent the week of the event.



Introducing our New Brand

The Society is excited to announce our new brand! The Strategic Plan 2020-2025 directed the Society to undertake a brand refresh to align our visual identity with all that the Society has accomplished over the last decade. With the use of technology, the board and staff worked with design firm Fontaine Maury of Thomasville, Georgia during 2020, to create a new brand that embraces the iconic nature of our sites and unifies, under one umbrella, the many ways that the Society serves our coastal region.

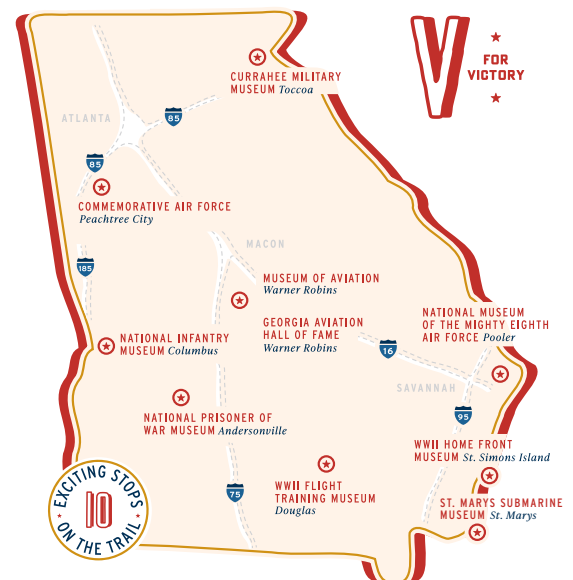
You, our members, are the first to see this refreshed branding beginning with this newsletter. Throughout the spring, the Society will redesign printed materials and digital media to reflect the new logos, colors, and fonts. Later in the year, we will launch the new brand to the community and region. We have high hopes that the refreshed look will resonate with you and enhance our ability to reach new audiences over the coming years.

Launch of the Georgia World War II Heritage Trail

After the opening of the new World War II Home Front Museum in December 2018, the Society's Executive Director Sherri Jones teamed up with Scott Loehr, President of the Mighty Eighth Museum in Savannah to reach out to WWII sites across the state. The resulting *Georgia World War II Heritage Trail* launched on February 16, and includes ten sites who have partnered to make Georgia's rich WWII heritage more accessible to visitors, families, and groups.

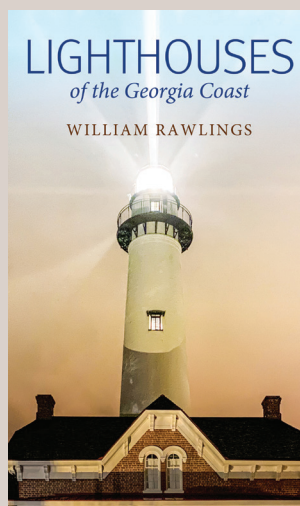
Trail visitors can take flight in a WWII airplane, build a Liberty ship, explore a pilot training base, march in the boots of the Band of Brothers, and learn the personal stories of courage, character, and patriotism displayed by the men and women involved. Suggested routes for North Georgia, Middle Georgia, and the Coast make it easy for visitors to experience two or three locations over a weekend. A Trail "passport" has been created so visitors can track their progress along the route, debrief their visit, and receive a confirmation stamp with the "V for Victory!" Visit www.georgiawwiitrail.org for more information.

The Heritage Trail is one of only four WWII Trails in the nation, and will be promoted domestically and internationally by *Explore Georgia*, the tourism division of the Georgia Department of Economic Development. Georgia residents and leisure visitors can experience the collection as a way to learn more about the state's involvement in the war, both at home and abroad. Scott McQuade, President of the Golden Isles Convention and Visitors Bureau said, "I'm excited to support a new experience that will appeal to visitors seeking drive destinations and meaningful travel."



Virtual Book Talk: *Lighthouses of the Georgia Coast*

On Thursday, May 6, at 6 p.m., author William Rawlings will present a virtual program about his book *Lighthouses of the Georgia Coast*, due to be released in April by Mercer University Press. The Society is thrilled that the St. Simons Lighthouse is on the cover.



Rawlings' richly illustrated book devotes a chapter to each of Georgia's five lighthouses, exploring their unique styles and stories. "These magnificent structures continue to fascinate us, not only for their intrinsic beauty, but also as monuments of our shared history," notes the author. "From the mid-eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries, they were an integral part

of the state's economy, vital to trade in cotton, rice, timber, naval stores, and other products shipped to ports in America and around the world." The book also includes information about lighthouse design and construction, the role and legacy of the keepers, and the strategic importance of the structures during the Civil War.

A prolific writer of "Southern stories," Rawlings is the author of eleven books, both fiction and nonfiction. He is a lifelong resident of Sandersville, Georgia, home to his family for more than two centuries. Now retired from his practice in internal medicine, he was educated at Emory, Tulane, and Johns Hopkins Universities. *Lighthouses of the Georgia Coast* is his fifth work of nonfiction.

This virtual program is free and open to the public. To register, visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org. A Zoom link to the lecture will be sent the week of the event.

2021 Little Light Music Concert Series

For over 25 years, residents and visitors have gathered on the oceanfront lawn beneath the Lighthouse for the Society's annual fundraising series. Bring your family, friends, a picnic supper, and lawn chairs for this special summer 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. Due to the pandemic, we are transitioning away from handling cash the evening of the concerts. We encourage you to purchase tickets in advance in the Museum Store or on the Society's website. For news and weather updates during the concert season, please visit our website or Facebook page.

The Society is grateful for the support of our 2021 concert sponsors.



MAY 9
The Tams

JUNE 20
The Funk Brotherhood

JULY 11
Michael Stacey Band

SEPT 5
Sensational Sounds of Motown

Annual Meeting Review

On Thursday, January 21, Elijah Heyward III, Ph.D., presented a virtual program entitled *A Preview of Charleston's International African American Museum*. The International African American Museum (IAAM) will open in Charleston, South Carolina in early 2022, with the mission to “honor the untold stories of the African American journey at one of our country’s most sacred sites,” the former Gadsden Wharf, entry point for over 150,000 enslaved Africans.

Dr. Heyward discussed the development and design of the museum, which will incorporate exhibit spaces, a family history center, and a memorial garden. State-of-the-art interactive technology will be used, along with traditional techniques, to tell the stories of the African diaspora and the spread of African culture and influence. Over 200 members and guests were in attendance. The program video and 2020 Annual Report are available for viewing on the Society's website.

Volunteer Awards



Maggie Glennon

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 Maggie Glennon. During an unusual year when we were closed for nearly three months in the spring, we were grateful that a number of volunteers felt comfortable with joining us during the summer. After volunteering in January through mid-March, Maggie returned in June as a docent at both the Lighthouse and the Home Front Museum. With her positive attitude and steadfast determination, she provided an excellent museum experience for our visitors at each location – even during a pandemic. Maggie is also one of five individuals who volunteered over 150 hours in 2019. Congratulations, Maggie, and thank you for your service.



Dave and Mike Fox

Rodriguez Service Award

At the Annual Meeting, Mike and Dave Fox were presented with the 2020 Rodriguez Service Award, which honors exemplary acts of stewardship and service to the Society. For well over a decade, the Foxes

have generously supported the Society. Dave actively served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee from 2008 to 2015. They founded, with nine others, the Keeper of the Light level of membership in 2009 and a new giving level of “Luminary” in 2017. Their lead gift launched the Keeper’s Dwelling restoration campaign in 2012, and they provided early and significant support to the Home Front Museum campaign. In December, they made a surprise year-end gift which will sustain the Society during the critical months ahead. We are in awe of their thoughtfulness and deeply grateful for their loyal support of the Society.

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 five new Board members: Craig Donohue, Cheryl Hargrove, Ed Hawie, Jim Kielt, and Jeff Molitor. The Society bids farewell and extends special thanks to Lewis Glenn, Tom Heagy, and Jeannie Kaufmann who are completing their terms of service on the Board.



Craig Donohue



Cheryl Hargrove



Ed Hawie



Jim Kielt



Jeff Molitor

Staff Updates

*The Society welcomes two new members
of staff to our professional roster*



Heather Cason joined our staff in December as Office Manager/Bookkeeper. Heather is a native of Brunswick and holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Valdosta State University. She enjoys bike riding and exploring the beauty of the Golden Isles, and she is passionate

about traveling. Her love of dogs led her to open Brunswick's first Doggie Daycare. For assistance, contact Heather at (912) 634-7090 or hcason@coastalgeorgiahistory.org.



In January, **Sheila VanderWood** joined our staff as Director of Development. Sheila is originally from St. Petersburg, FL, and moved to the area from Madison, WI. She brings with her a decade of experience at non-profits including United Way of Greenville County in Greenville,

SC and United Way of Wisconsin in Madison. She earned her MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in December 2020. For membership or development assistance, please contact Sheila at (912) 634-7096 or svanderwood@coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

Preservation Projects

January was a busy month for preservation projects at our Lighthouse Museum! At the Keeper's Dwelling, the shutters were painted and the rusty hinges were replaced with custom-made brass hinges. On the interior, areas of blistered and peeling paint on walls, ceilings, and woodwork throughout the building were repaired and painted, and the wood floors were cleaned and waxed. This work was funded by a generous donation from Janis and Cesar Rodriguez.

The masonry tower of the Lighthouse was carefully washed and, in several areas, painted to remove dirt, mold, and rust stains. All areas of rust on the main gallery at the top of the Lighthouse were removed and the entire gallery was repainted, as were areas of the lens room gallery. The five windows on the tower were also painted. This work addressed the areas of concern outlined in a structural assessment completed in October 2020. The project was supported by the Lighthouse Museum Preservation Fund, established in 2014 to protect our treasured buildings.



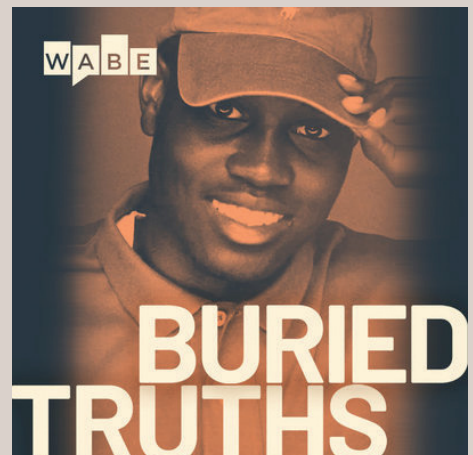
Collaboration with Local Educators



Hank Klibanoff

During February and March, the Society partnered with other educational institutions to present two lectures by Hank Klibanoff, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and former speaker at our Chautauqua Lecture Series. On February 17, the College of Coastal Georgia's Office of Diversity Initiatives hosted an in-person and virtual program planned jointly by Society staff and Quinton Staples, CCGA Director of Diversity Initiatives.

On March 12, students at Glynn Academy participated in a similar virtual presentation and interactive session. Both lectures featured Klibanoff's most recent research into the historical context surrounding the death of Ahmaud Arbery in Glynn County, as well as his work on Civil Rights cold cases. Klibanoff's podcast about these projects is called "Buried Truths" and is available on most audio platforms.



Membership Highlights

Thank you to those who have generously upgraded their membership, or increased their level of annual giving.

Keeper of the Light

Julia & Kelly Goalby – Sustainer
Kris & Gordon Graham – Sustainer
Chip & Linka Lewis – Sustainer
Diana & Reg Murphy – Patron
Lois & Danny Yates – Sustainer

General

Deborah & Chuck Carter – Curator
Dale & Paul Cronin – Assistant Keeper
Faye Foster – Curator
Daniel Hagan – Curator
Margaret Hutchinson – Curator
Janis & Jack Lapidus – Family
Alice & Royce Leggett – Curator
Rebecca Lott – Curator
Patricia & R. M. Lusted – Lamplighter
Tim McBride – Curator
Betsy & David Myers – Curator
Gretchen & Michael Negles – Assistant Keeper
Linda & Stephen Nelms – Curator
Joyce & Buzzy Pickren – Curator
Larry Scarborough – Family
Clay & Janice Stallworth – Curator
Gwendolyn Stevens & Nils Wessell – Curator
Terry Trotochaud – Lamplighter
Ellen & Woody Woodside – Curator

Memorial and Tribute Gifts

In Memory of Bob Huggins
By Larry & Susan Bacon

In memory of Jackie Burney Todd
By Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hartman

Welcome New Members!

Keeper of the Light (New)

Cherise & Dialo Cartwright – Sustainer
Susan & Al Garrett – Sustainer
Mildred Huie Wilcox – Sustainer

General (New)

Lisbeth & Randy Addison – Family
William Bembry – Family
Carol & Larry Braden – Curator
Ercilia Cano – Individual
John Clayman – Individual
Laura & Rob Cruser – Family
Cheryl Davis – Individual
George Edwards – Family
Gary Fedota – Family
Carolyn Fritz – Individual
June & John Galland – Family
Elizabeth Gessner – Individual
Karen Gleason – Individual
Tom & Darlene Godfrey – Family
Whitney & Robert Griffin – Family
Christy & David Hand – Family
Carol Heffernan – Individual
Jennifer Hersch – Individual
Susie & Jon Julian – Curator
Suzanne & Al Kennison – Family
Cheryl Lawson – Individual
Russ Marane – Assistant Keeper
Frances & Dennie McCrary – Family
Robert McNally – Individual
Phyllis McNicoll – Individual
Kay & Bruce Miles – Family
Karen North – Individual
Sheryl & Nick Pavlinac – Family
Keith Post – Individual
Cheryl Robinson – Individual
Dan Robinson – Family
Jacqueline Rooke – Family
Marion Savic – Curator
Judy & Craig Sellner – Family
Betsy & Greg Simmons – Family
Dawn Slowikowski – Individual
Lisabeth & Henry Staley – Family
Debra Stockton – Individual
Frank Ullman – Individual
Leslie Veres – Individual
Wanda Wetherington – Family
Mary Beth Whittaker – Family
Catherine Willmott – Individual
Ben & Charlotte Woodard – Family

Calendar of Events

April 15

Spring Membership Meeting
The Daughters of Yalta
Catherine Grace Katz
6 p.m. – via Zoom

May 6

Virtual Book Talk
Lighthouses of the Georgia Coast
William Rawlings
6 p.m. – via Zoom

Little Light Music Concerts
7 - 9 p.m.

Lighthouse grounds
\$15 per person
Free: Children under 12 and Keepers of the Light

May 9

The Tams

June 20

The Funk Brotherhood

July 11

Michael Stacey Band

Sept 5

Sensational Sounds of Motown

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



COASTAL GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 21136
St. Simons Island
Georgia 31522

Our Staff

Executive Director

Sherri Jones

Curator

Mimi Rogers

World War II Home Front

Museum Site Manager

Kim Campbell

Education Director

Sandy White

Director of Development

Sheila VanderWood

Public Relations Director

Leigh Ann Stroud

Office Manager

Heather Cason

Director of Retail Operations

Ben Sterling

Events Coordinator

Jessica Aldridge

Senior Historian

Buddy Sullivan

Consulting Archaeologist

Nick Honerkamp, Ph.D.

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Michelle Johnston

Jim Kielt

Jeffrey Molitor

Susan Myers

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Bill Stembler

Brenda Thompson

**Call (912) 634-7090, follow us online,
or visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org**



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Museums