



COASTAL GEORGIA  
**HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

NEWSLETTER

The mission of the Society is to connect people to Coastal Georgia's dynamic history through the stories we share and the collections we preserve.

## Fall Program and Reception

*More Than Tabby Ruins: Caribbean and African Inspired Housing Below the Surface of Georgia's Lowcountry Plantation Landscapes*



UT-Chattanooga field school students excavating a potential slave cabin, Sapelo Island.

In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Society's Archaeology Laboratory, **Lindsey Cochran, Ph.D., will present a lecture on Thursday, October 20**, based on her study of Georgia's coastal plantations. By examining the total plantation landscape of above and below ground resources alongside documentary and geophysical data, archaeologists can reveal intricate connections between our coast and the broader Atlantic world. Results from archaeological research at Cannon's Point Preserve on St. Simons Island and at the former Spalding Plantation on Sapelo Island highlight Georgia's truly unique role in global plantation culture.

Dr. Cochran is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at East Tennessee State University (ETSU) and Director of ETSU's Valleybrook Archaeological Laboratories. She has worked on the Georgia coast for over ten years, using STEM-based methodologies to ask humanistic questions about the lives of enslaved people and the world in which they lived.

The lecture will be followed by a wine and cheese reception at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center to celebrate the anniversary of the lab and to thank Dr. Nick Honerkamp who is retiring as the Society's first consulting archaeologist. Dr. Cochran, a former student of Dr.

*Continued on page 2*

Honerkamp, has graciously agreed to assume oversight of the lab. The facility was the vision of the late Ray Crook, a noted authority on coastal archaeology, who was dedicated to providing a local repository for archaeological artifacts found in Coastal Georgia.

**The lecture will be held at 5 p.m. at St. Simons Presbyterian Church** and will also be live streamed. Members attend the lecture free of charge, and the cost for non-members is \$10. **The reception at the Heritage Center is for members only.** Registration for both events is required by visiting [coastalgeorgiahistory.org](http://coastalgeorgiahistory.org).

## 150th Birthday Celebration

On September 1, the Society celebrated the Lighthouse's 150th birthday with a member event on the lighthouse lawn. Attendees braved the weather and enjoyed live music, refreshments, and the availability of food trucks, followed by the premiere of the light show projected onto the tower. The show was presented to the public each evening from September 2-5, attracting thousands of residents and visitors.





## Brunswick Lecture Series: *An Overview of Historic Brunswick: Our City by the Sea*



NEWCASTLE STREET. BRUNSWICK, GA.

Newcastle Street, Brunswick c. 1920.

The Brunswick Lecture Series, returning in October at the Brunswick-Glynn County Library, will now feature four programs. In addition to Buddy Sullivan's lectures, there will be two programs adapted from the Brunswick walking tours offered last fall. These will be presented by Sandy White and Kim Campbell. Programs will be held on **October 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 4–5:30 p.m.**

**The first two lectures, October 4 and 11, will feature the Society's**

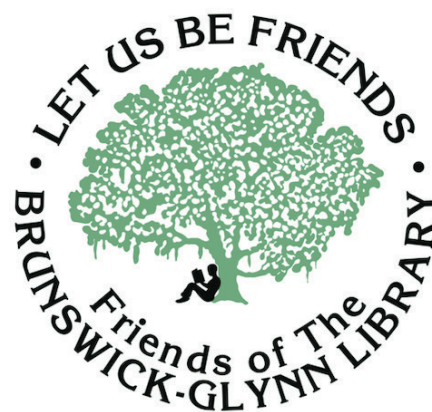
**Senior Historian Buddy Sullivan.** Sullivan will cover the history of Brunswick from the colonial settlement of Georgia to the late 20th century, concentrating on the city's development as a commercial center and seaport. The story of education will be discussed, including the African American schools established after the Civil War. Brunswick's Home Front contributions during World War II will be described, as well as the commercial seafood industry that developed after the war. Dozens of historical images will illustrate the city's rich history.

**Education Director Sandy White will present "Wanderings through Windsor Park" on October 18.**

Known as Brunswick's first suburb, the neighborhood consists of excellent examples of typical American architectural styles from the 1920s through the 1960s. The story includes the colorful personalities who lived there, noted local architects who designed the charming homes, and even the origins of the Brunswick Golf Club.

**On October 25, former Society staff member Kim Campbell returns to present "Markers, Memorials, and Monuments in Historic Downtown Brunswick."** This lecture will explore Brunswick's memorial landscape, from the markers and monuments surrounding the Glynn County Courthouse campus through the varied ways Brunswick's diverse history is commemorated along the historic business corridor on Newcastle Street. The program will examine not only the event or person that the markers feature, but also the time in which they were constructed.

The cost for the series is \$50, and registration is required. The lectures will be held at the **Brunswick Library, 208 Gloucester Street.** To register, visit [coastalgeorgiahistory.org](http://coastalgeorgiahistory.org). This program is presented jointly by the Coastal Georgia Historical Society and the Friends of the Brunswick-Glynn County Library.



# Cumberland Field Trip: *Stafford House and the Chimneys*



Carnegie family at Dungeness, 1900. Courtesy Cumberland Island National Seashore Museum NPS.

National Park Service is underway to restore some of the chimneys, in partnership with the Carnegie family. Robert Stafford established Stafford cotton plantation in the middle of Cumberland Island during the early 19th century. The remains of the enslaved people's dwellings are now referred to as the Chimneys.

These brick chimneys are the architectural reminder of what life was like for enslaved African Americans working on Cumberland during this time. NPS staff will discuss the history of the dwellings and the work to stabilize and preserve the remnants.

After a morning at the Chimneys, **tour participants will head to Stafford House for a catered lunch.** Built by William Coleman Carnegie, the house with its surrounding property is held under a life estate by a Carnegie descendant who has graciously allowed access for our group. The Carnegies purchased the property from the descendants of Robert Stafford. When the original Stafford House burned in 1901, William rebuilt a home on the same site and retained the Stafford name.

**The afternoon will include a trip to the picturesque ruins of Thomas and Lucy Carnegie's winter home, Dungeness, as well as a visit to the Ice House Museum.** Throughout the day, tour participants will hear from the expert guides from Cumberland's "Land and Legacies" Tour as they provide transportation among the island's sites.

This field trip to Cumberland is scheduled **for November 10, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.** It will include all transportation to and from the Heritage Center and around Cumberland Island via private motorcoach, charter boat, and vans. This tour will operate rain or shine. The cost is \$275 for Society members. No refunds, although tickets may be transferred to another member. **Registration will open on September 28 at 10 a.m.**

Coastal Georgia Historical Society is excited to present a field trip that will offer a rare glimpse into life on Cumberland Island, from the plantation period through present day.

Cumberland Island has been home to Native Americans, Revolutionary War notables, enslaved African Americans, and – of course – the Carnegie family. **On Thursday, November 10,** Society members are invited to travel to Georgia's largest barrier island for a special visit to the Carnegie family's Stafford House and Chimneys site, which are still privately held.

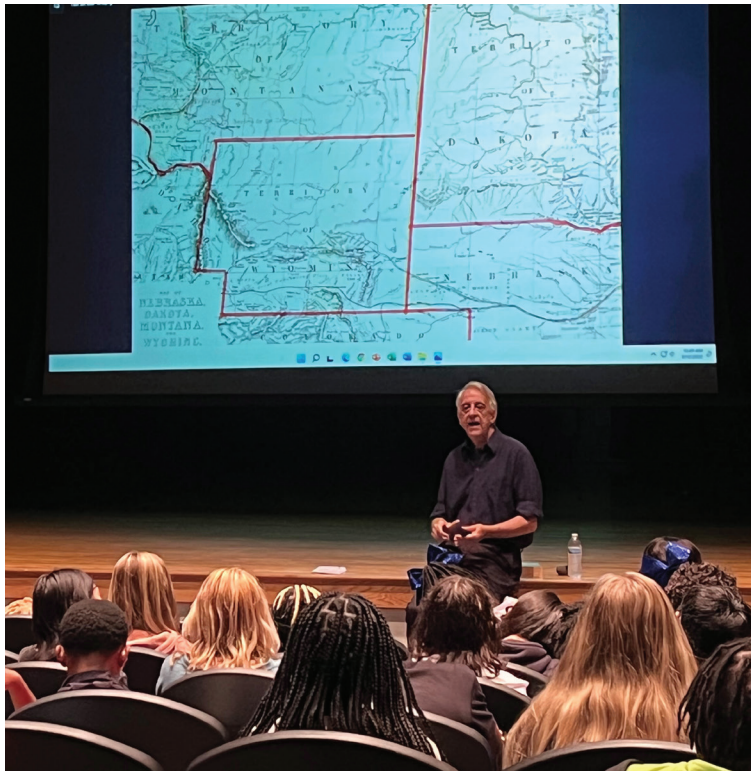
**The morning will begin with a visit to the Chimneys,** where an extensive project by the



The chimneys of the slave dwellings at Stafford Plantation are under restoration through a partnership between the Carnegie family and the National Park Service. Image courtesy National Park Service.



## Presenting History in Our Schools



One of our Chautauqua Lecture Series speakers, **author George Black**, presented a program at **Brunswick High School** for 100 Honors Social Studies students on August 12. Mr. Black discussed events leading up to the founding of Yellowstone National Park, focusing on key aspects that align with the Georgia Standards of Excellence for high school U.S. History. The students responded with a number of interesting questions.

Special thanks to Casey Cason, Social Studies Department Chair at Brunswick High, and Cathy Pittman, Social Studies Coordinator for Glynn County Schools, for helping to coordinate this valuable educational experience.

## Community Partners and Volunteers Attend “Interpreting Difficult Histories” Workshop

On Sunday, August 21, Coastal Georgia Historical Society hosted a workshop on “Interpreting Difficult Histories” for all Society Docents and several partners within the Golden Isles’ historical community. Staff and volunteers joined from the Cassina Garden Club, the stewards of the tabby slave cabins remaining from Hamilton Plantation, and the St. Simons Land Trust, partners with CGHS on historic interpretation at Cannon’s Point Preserve. The workshop was presented by Shannon Browning-Mullis, a National Association of Interpretation certified trainer and the Executive Director of the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace in Savannah. Previously, Shannon was a Curator with the Telfair Museums and led the re-interpretation of the Owens-Thomas House and Slave Quarters. At the three-hour workshop, participants were invited to discuss current best practices in interpretation of historical moments that might involve extreme hardship, violence, and racial injustice. There was also an opportunity to collaboratively come up with answers to some of the real-life difficult questions that have been posed to us as interpreters at our historic sites. The Society was excited to host this workshop for local leaders in history and looks forward to more partnership opportunities in the future to raise the profile of Coastal Georgia history.

# Thank You to Our Sponsors

## 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 a great 2022 season.



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## Chautauqua Lecture Series

The Society would like to thank Raymond James for sponsoring the 2022 Chautauqua Lecture Series. Thank you to Kevin Lokey for making this year's Lecture Series a success.



# Save the Date

## Holiday Open House

The Lighthouse Museum Store's annual Holiday Open House will be on Saturday, November 5, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Join us for 20% off all merchandise including holiday decor and fanciful gifts, and possibly find something special for yourself! Light refreshments will be provided while you explore and shop.

## Buddy Sullivan Local History Course

Buddy Sullivan will present a four-week lecture series, "History of the Golden Isles—and Slightly Beyond," on Tuesday afternoons, January 17, 24, 31, and February 7, from 4 – 6 p.m. The winter series will feature St. Simons, Sea Island, Jekyll, Sapelo, Brunswick, and Darien. The cost is \$50 for CGHS members and \$95 for non-members.

## Winter Program

On Sunday, January 29, 2023, culinary historian Jessica B. Harris will present a lecture entitled *African/American: Making the Nation's Table*, based on the exhibit she recently curated in New York City for the Museum of Food and Drink. She will share the stories of Black chefs, farmers, and food and drink entrepreneurs, including several from Georgia, who have laid the foundation for American food culture. Author of twelve critically acclaimed books, Dr. Harris is considered the preeminent expert on foods and foodways of the African Diaspora.

# Membership Highlights

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

## **Keepers of the Light**

Arthur Pittman – Sustainer  
Alice Glenn – Benefactor  
Carla and Ronald Kalil – Sustainer

## **General**

Greg Gates – Lamplighter  
Martha and Jim Johnson – Curator  
Jane Madaj – Curator  
Esther Smith – Curator  
Frank Worley – Curator

## **Welcome New Members!**

## **Keepers of the Light**

Mark and Kathy Whitehead – Sustainer

## **General**

Myrna Scott Amos – Family  
Page Aiken – Family  
JoAnn Bloodworth – Individual  
Brooks Bonnot – Family  
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Mike Southers – Individual  
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Melissa Trussell – Individual

## **Memorial and Tribute Gifts**

In Memory of Louise and Ed Frank  
By Coca-Cola on behalf of Carol Mathis  
Cartus & Bill Cartus, Nell Mathis Black & Rip Black

## **Reminder– Please Update Your Communication Preferences**

We have an exciting fall and winter schedule ahead and want to make sure that you receive Society news first and in a format that is convenient for you. To that end, we need accurate contact information for your household, including your preference in terms of paper or digital communication, or both!

**If you have not done so, please visit [coastalgeorgiahistory.org](http://coastalgeorgiahistory.org) and complete the Member Contact and Preference form.** You are also welcome to contact me directly at [svanderwood@coastalgeorgiahistory.org](mailto:svanderwood@coastalgeorgiahistory.org) or (912) 634-7096.

Thank you for your continued participation, loyalty, and support.  
Sheila VanderWood

# Calendar of Events

## **An Overview of Historic Brunswick: Our City by the Sea**

**October 4, 11, 18, 25**

4–5:30 p.m.

Brunswick-Glynn County Library  
\$50 per person for the series

## **St. Simons Lighthouse Keepers Grave Marker Dedication**

**October 13**

10 a.m.

Christ Church Cemetery

## **Fall Program**

**October 20**

*More than Tabby Ruins*  
Lindsey Cochran, Ph.D.

5 p.m.

St. Simons Presbyterian Church  
CGHS members free;  
\$10 non-members  
Archaeology Lab Celebration  
immediately following the lecture  
A.W. Jones Heritage Center

## **Holiday Open House**

**November 5**

10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Lighthouse Museum Store

## **Cumberland Island Field Trip**

**November 10**

7:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Departing from the  
A.W. Jones Heritage Center  
\$275 per person



# COASTAL GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 21136  
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Georgia 31522

FIRST CLASS  
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Brunswick, GA  
31520  
Permit No. 369

## Our Staff

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### Curator

Mimi Rogers

### Education Director

Sandy White

### Director of Development

Sheila VanderWood

### Public Relations Director

Leigh Ann Stroud

### Office Manager

Heather Cason

### Director of Retail Operations

Eric Oberg

### Events Coordinator

Jessica Aldridge

### Senior Historian

Buddy Sullivan

### Consulting Archaeologist

Lindsey Cochran, Ph.D.

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