



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

Monument: The Untold Story of Stone Mountain



View of the 20th century carving at Stone Mountain in progress, undated.
 Kenan Research Center at Atlanta History Center

On November 16, 2023, Sheffield Hale will present a screening and discussion of “Monument: The Untold Story of Stone Mountain.” This half-hour documentary, created by the Atlanta History Center, explores the controversial past and present of the carving on Stone Mountain. “Monument” is part of a larger, ongoing effort by the Atlanta History Center to investigate the impacts of Confederate memorialization like the carving on Stone Mountain. By reviewing a range of perspectives on the carving, “Monument” explores complicated historical relationships and invites viewers to reflect on the piece’s modern impact.

Sheffield Hale has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Atlanta History Center since 2012. A Trustee Emeritus of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and a Past Chair of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, he was a recipient of the 2021 Georgia Governor’s Award for Arts and Humanities. In 2017, he served as co-chair of the Advisory Committee on City of Atlanta Street Names and Monuments Associated with the Confederacy.



Sheffield Hale

Continued on page 2

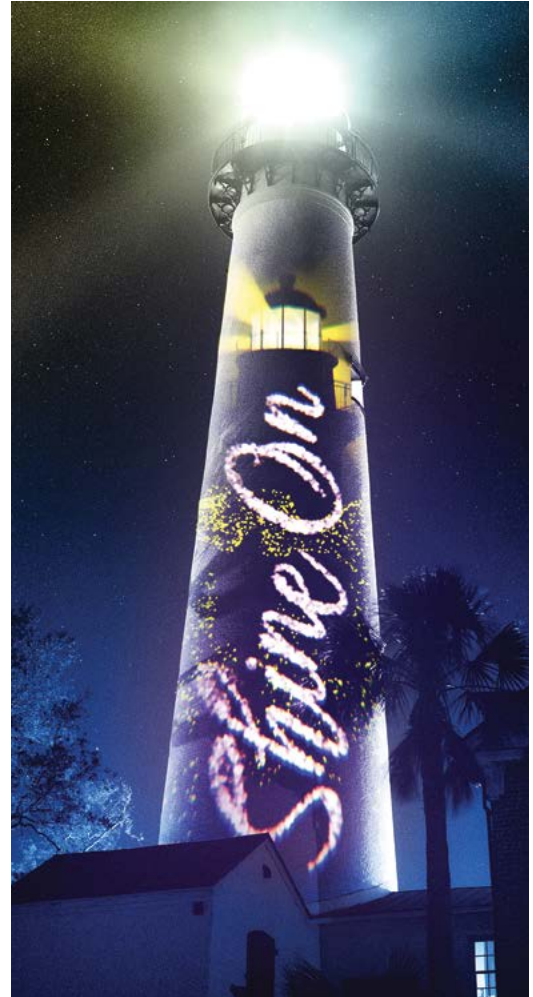
The Fall Program will be held at 6 p.m. at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center. Members attend the lecture free of charge, and the cost for non-members is \$10. Registration for the program is required by visiting coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

The Future Looks Bright

We are excited to report we have achieved our campaign goal of \$1.25 million! These donations, paired with funds already set aside for this purpose, create a Preservation Fund of \$2 million – the amount required to guarantee that our historic buildings will be protected and available to the public well into the future.

This milestone furthers a fundamental goal of our Strategic Plan: *ensuring sustainability*. Now, we can preserve the most significant items in our collection while continuing to expand our services and programming beyond the Society’s facilities and St. Simons Island. We look forward to exploring new opportunities for the organization in the coming year as we develop the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan.

Our heartfelt thanks to the co-chairs of the Campaign, Craig and Elsa Donohue and Lucy and Dick Glasebrook, whose leadership and generosity inspired an appreciation of the long-term significance of this effort and paved the way for a successful campaign. We also recognize the estate of Miranda (“Randy”) and Stephen Hires for a generous bequest, part of which has been designated by the board for the Preservation Fund. As always, we appreciate our members, the lifeblood of this organization. Thanks to you, the future looks bright for our museums and our organization.



Light show celebration over Labor Day weekend.

We are grateful for the support of our sponsors who made the light show possible:



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



The Brunswick Lecture Series, returning in October at the Brunswick-Glynn County Library, includes four speakers who will cover a range of Brunswick-centered historical topics. Programs will be held on **October 3, 10, 17, and 24 from 4 – 5:30 p.m.**

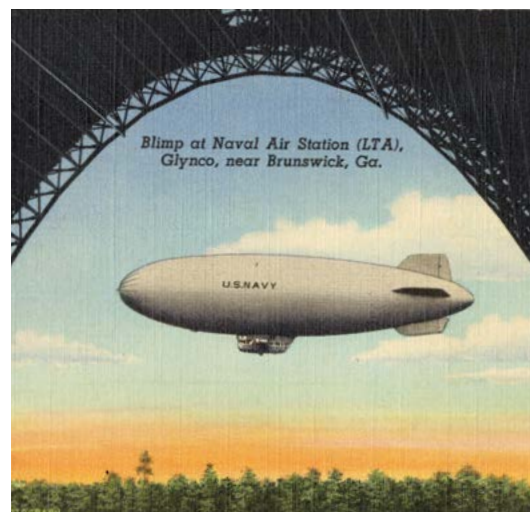
The first lecture, on October 3, will feature the Society’s Senior Historian Buddy Sullivan. Sullivan will cover the history of Brunswick from the colonial settlement of Georgia to the 20th century, concentrating on the city’s development as a commercial center and seaport. Brunswick’s

home front contributions during World War II will be discussed, as well as the commercial seafood industry that developed after the war. Dozens of historical images will illustrate the city’s rich history.

Director of Public Programming Allison Dupuis will present “Railroads to Rest Stops: Travel and Tourism In Brunswick from the 1890s to the 1960s” on October 10. From the heyday of the Oglethorpe Hotel to the completion of Georgia’s section of Interstate 95, Brunswick has long served a dual function as a welcoming way station and a vacation destination in and of itself. This program will follow Brunswick’s unique story through the rise and fall of rail travel, the era of the Dixie Highway, and the changes ushered in by the Numbered and Interstate Highway Systems.

Hector Montford, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History at the College of Coastal Georgia, will present “The Risley School: Creating Community in a Segregated City” on October 17. The presentation will focus on 20th century education in Glynn County, with a special emphasis on the role of the Risley School. Over the past few years, Dr. Montford and his students have worked with local community groups to preserve and document Brunswick’s African American history through archival research. Their oral history interviews of former Risley students, faculty, and staff are important components of his research for this program.

The series will conclude with Keith Propst, who will present “Gray Shadows Over Wolfpacks: NAS Glynco and the Naval Airship Program” on October 24. During World War II, Naval Air Station Glynco housed and maintained a fleet of airships, which helped to protect American ships from attacks by German submarines. Propst’s presentation will highlight his research into the construction of Naval Air Station Glynco and the enduring importance of the Station and its activities, both during and after World War II. Propst has previously published multiple articles for both *Georgia Backroads* magazine and south Florida’s *Lake Worth Herald* newspaper.



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. This program is presented jointly by the Coastal Georgia Historical Society and the Friends of the Brunswick-Glynn County Library.



Clay Jenkinson interacts with students

Chautauqua in Schools

Humanities scholar Clay Jenkinson, who presented a dramatic portrayal of physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer at this year's Chautauqua Lecture Series, reprised that role for middle and high school students at Frederica Academy. With 285 students in attendance, "Dr. Oppenheimer" described the development of the atomic bomb, its use during World War II, and its ongoing impact on international relations. The presentation was followed by a lively question and answer period. The Society extends our thanks to the educators who helped coordinate this special educational experience.

Holiday Open House

Get ready for the holidays! The Society's annual **Holiday Open House** will take place on Saturday, **November 4**, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with an exclusive **Members Only Preview** and 20% discount on Friday, **November 3**, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come shop our unique selection of home and holiday décor, fashions, fragrances, and accessories, as well as the largest selection of Coastal Georgia history books available on the Island. On Saturday, members and the general public enjoy a 20% discount and light refreshments. We will be joined by local artists and have book signings throughout the day.



World War II Airship Aviator's Donation



Visitors to the Airship Gallery at the Home Front Museum are often drawn to the images and audio stories associated with John A. Fahey, a young aviator in the U.S. Navy. Now 100 years old, Fahey was an invaluable resource during the planning of the gallery. He was assigned to Naval Air Station Glynco during the war and served as a pilot on airships, also known as blimps, that protected convoys of cargo vessels from attack by enemy submarines. He continued to pilot airships for a number of years after the war.

Recently, Fahey donated his flight log books to the Society, which date from 1943 until 1953. They are an important source of information about day-to-day operations at the base and a tangible reminder of wartime life in our area. While in Brunswick, John met his future wife, Barbara Haag, who was a student at Glynn Academy. In the picture shown here, the newlyweds enjoy a dance at the Glynco Officer's Club in 1945. When Barbara Fahey died in 2021, the couple had been married for 76 years.



Barbara and John Fahey. Courtesy of John A. Fahey.

“History Happens Here”

In July, Glynn County public school teachers visited the Society as part of a “History Happens Here” workshop. Teachers from K-3rd and 8th grades toured the Lighthouse and Home Front museums to learn about our historic sites for incorporation in lesson plans centered around our local history. The group participated in the interactive exhibits at both museums, including the new touch table in the Airship Gallery, which has STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) animations specifically designed as teaching tools for students. The tours were followed by lunch and a planning session with the Society's Education Director, Annie Martin. We look forward to welcoming the teachers and their classes for field trips and other educational activities during the school year.



Teachers enjoy the knot tying activity at the Home Front Museum.

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 2023 season – the 25th anniversary of Little Light Music!



Chautauqua Lecture Series

The Society would like to thank Raymond James and Gilbert, Harrell, Sumerford & Martin for sponsoring the 2023 Chautauqua Lecture Series. Thank you for making this year's lecture series a success.



Upcoming Programs

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 16, 23, 30 and February 6, from 4 – 5:30 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

Award-winning author Douglas Brinkley, Ph.D., will present the Society's Winter Program early next year. Brinkley is the Katherine Tsanoff Brown Chair in Humanities and Professor of History at Rice University. A CNN Presidential Historian, he has authored more than twenty books about twentieth and twenty-first century American history. He will discuss the latest of these works, *Silent Spring Revolution: John F. Kennedy, Rachel Carson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, and the Great Environmental Awakening*, and its vital connections to Coastal Georgia. Date to be announced.

Membership Highlights

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

Keepers of the Light

Maryellen and Page Aiken – Sustainer
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Joanie and Stewart Long – Sustainer
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Welcome New Members!

Keepers of the Light

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Memorial and Tribute Gifts

In Memory of Elizabeth Brown Alexander
By Martha Mast, Elizabeth Parker, Gretchen Monti

In Memory of Stanley Altman
By Greer and Laura Brown, Beverly and Patrick Fetter, Charlotte and Bill Lueckel, Jeanne Warwick

In Honor of Jan Payne
By Frankie Carrigan

In Memory of Albert Shelander
By Phillis and Max Harrell

In Memory of Lamar Webb
By Jeanne Warwick

Special Thanks to our Keepers of the Light for Leading the Way

Since the group was established 15 years ago, Keepers of the Light have become essential to the Society's financial well-being. The group has grown to 200 individuals and families who make up 20% of the annual operating budget through their membership dues of \$1,000 or more. In addition, they champion vital projects and initiatives such as the recent Preservation Campaign where they collectively contributed \$852,832, more than 60% of the goal. Thank you to our Keepers for your leadership, encouragement, and generosity on which we rely!

Calendar of Events

An Overview of Historic Brunswick: Our City by the Sea

October 3

Buddy Sullivan

October 10

Allison Dupuis

October 17

Hector Montford, Ph.D.

October 24

Keith Propst

4–5:30 p.m.

Brunswick-Glynn Library

\$50 per person for the series

Fall Program

November 16

Monument: The Untold Story of Stone Mountain

Sheffield Hale

6 p.m.

A.W. Jones Heritage Center

CGHS members free;

\$10 non-members

Holiday Open House Lighthouse Museum Store

Member Preview

November 3

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Open House

November 4

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.



COASTAL GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Director of Development

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Buddy Sullivan

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or visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org



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