



Gule News

FEBRUARY 1991

VOLUME 11, NO. 1

FIRST MEETING OF 1991

Tuesday, February 12th, St. Marys City Library
7:00 (note time change)
Executive Session 6:30

PROGRAM:

Let's Play "Wheel of Placenames"!

Where do you live? On Wheeler Street in St. Marys? Bedell Avenue in Woodbine? On Satilla Street in Kingsland? Maybe you live on Fairfield Drive or at Sugarmill Plantation? The choice is endless.

Would you like to know how your address got its name? Challenge Society President and Bryan-Lang Historical Librarian John Christian. His studies have revealed many place-name sources- and he will be sharing them with you. See if you can stump him with Harriett's Bluff or Elliot's Plantation or Gooseberry Hill. To do this you must be present at the St. Marys Library, February 12, 7:00.

Business at the February meeting will include the first reading for a proposed amendment to the Society's bylaws which will enable a dues increase. This will be voted on in March.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 1991

The Executive Committee at its January planning session put together an exciting year for you. Program and Ramble suggestions are as varied as a local author speaker, a look at the newly opened Bed and Breakfast Spencer House, trips to the outstanding Fernandina museum, Sapelo and Sunburry. Stay tuned for a year of entertainment, education and surprises!!!

WATCH FOR - The display **WOMEN OF SOUTH COASTAL GEORGIA, A CURRENT HISTORY CELEBRATION** which was arranged by the Coastal Georgia Historical Society and has been set up at the Lighthouse Museum is coming to Camden County February 21st - April 29.

Bryan-Lang Historical Library will be the first stop of this photographic exhibit with a reception planned soon after its arrival. Watch the newspapers for details.

CUMBERLAND ISLAND, THE UNSUNG NORTHERN

Society member and Cumberland Island fancier Mary Miller has just published a history of Cumberland's north end, a neglected resource. Miss Miller's family members were longtime innkeepers there, and she spent her childhood roaming the island and most of her adulthood researching her family lines. Now she is sharing all this information and worlds of pictures with you.

The book is on sale in many of the Brunswick bookstores. In St. Marys you can buy your copy at Once Upon a Bookseller for \$12. For mail orders send to 110 Osborne St. and include .72 tax and .95 mailing.

INTRODUCING

This month's out-of-town member only became an out-of-towner in December. Prior to this, Society charter member Maxine Wells was a resident of Kingsland. Now she has left us for Statesboro where she will find her niche in this university town.

Maxine began collecting and featuring her "Remember When" photographs in the Southeast Georgian in 1978. These old photos gleaned from family albums throughout the county became a permanent part of Kingsland's history when she published them in her "Pictorial Reminiscence of Kingsland" in 1980. Incidentally, a few copies are still available at Pitty Pat's antique shop (\$15).

Maxine was not content to reproduce old photographs, she also

preserved many of the older building in her watercolors and crossstitch. She was also involved in downtown preservation and helped with the National Register nomination for the historical section of Kingsland. She will be sorely missed!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

IN KINGSLAND - Downtown Development and Preservation leader Mara Peterson announces that the National Register Nomination has been completed for the Historical Downtown District of Kingsland and has been filed with the state.

She also announced that preservationist architect Lee Myers has been secured for overseeing the renovation of the old Camden Hotel. This brick building will then become part of the city government complex.

IN ST. MARYS - The Orange Hall committee headed by Linda Love is completing the furnishing of the main floor with antiques and accessories that bring the building to life once again. The committee members should receive medals, plaques and other recognition for a job well done.

Can You Help Here?

NOW they are moving upstairs and need your help! One of the upper Orange Hall rooms will be converted into a vintage clothing display area with clothing, jewelry, and grooming materials up through the 1930's. If you have such items that you will donate or place on loan contact Marjorie Waters, chr. Vintage Clothing Display, 673-6110. They can also use display cases, mannequins and hat stands.

Calling Camden County Cooks - to raise funds for renovation and maintenance at Orange Hall, the Orange Hall committee will be compiling the **ORANGE HALL COOKBOOK**. This will feature all types recipes with an emphasis on regional ingredients and preparation techniques. To be included in the forthcoming book, send your favorite recipes by March 15 to Orange Hall Cookbook, P.O. Box 1091, St. Marys 31558. Please include you name, address and telephone number on each one. More details from Orange Hall, 882-4000.

IN WOODBINE - A Woodbine Flash. The City has purchased the railroad right of way stretching from Gethsemane Baptist Association on the south to Refuge Road on the north giving the city waterfront on both banks of the Satilla. The south end of the trestle will remain to be used as a fishing pier. CSX will remove the other portions of the trestle.

Drop by Woodbine City Hall to see the newly acquired painting of Woodbine founder J.K. Bedell. As you already know, the town of Woodbine stands on land once part of his Woodbine Plantation, and he donated land for churches and schools when the town was established in 1893.

COMING UP

In February - On February 23 at Crooked River State Park, A day of Georgia's coastal history with traditional cooking, music and art.

Also on the 23rd at the rice plantation Hofwyl, now a state park, on U.S. 17 north of Brunswick, "Black History Remembered", with music, traditional games, art work with oldfashioned barbecued ribs and chicken to be served.

GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT JOHN CHRISTIAN WELCOME

We have now entered into a New Year! Gule Historical Society is looking forward to another successful year and invites you to take part in its activities. Let me welcome you into the new year and to Gule Historical Society.

The word "welcome" means:

W — WALK

In this organization you will walk in the past of our county. The person who does not learn the past is bound to make the same mistakes of our forefathers. We are dedicated to preserving the past so that we can learn from it, but we don't forget the future.

W — WARM HEARTED

Welcome to an organization that is warm-hearted toward all its members and all citizens of society.

E — ELYSIUM

This word carries with it the idea of happiness, one of the things we strive for in Guale Historical Society for each member and guest.

E — ENLIGHTENMENT

Fresh ideas and unexplored information from members and friends alike bring a sparkle to our meetings and rambles.

L — LABORATORY

Guale Historical Society is a laboratory for learning the history of Camden County and the surrounding area. Through this we appreciate the forefathers who faced tremendous odds in developing our culture of today.

L — LAUGH

As we meet, we laugh with one another, enjoying good-natured jokes upon ourselves.

C — CALDRON

We learn that we are a caldran of people, a diverse people. Learning this, we understand ourselves and neighbors better, for Coastal Georgia is indeed a melting pot of cultures.

C — CAMARADERIE

Welcome to an organization where there is a tremendous fellowship with a great respect for others.

O — ORIGINAL

Welcome to an organization representing one of the original counties of Georgia. Many of the original records of our county dating to the 1700s, are still in existence in the courthouse or in the Bryan-Lang Historical Library. Hence we are in a unique position to learn much of the past.

O — OUTLET

Get into an organization that gives you an outlet for your stress. Guale is an option to biting your nails and wringing your hands.

M — MANNA

Like the heavenly food for the people of Israel in the wilderness, so Guale is manna for those who are historically oriented.

M — MERRY

Welcome to an organization that extends the feeling of Christmas cheer to all months of the year.

E — ENCOURAGE

A look at the past can lift you from the blues and discouragement of today. Guale encourages you.

E — ENTHRALL

Welcome to the opportunity to be enslaved by the past and to be fascinated at the same time.

It is good to have you as a member of Guale Historical Society. If you are not a member, we encourage you to join us and be a part of a WELCOMING organization that studies the past, exists in the present and faces tomorrow.

CENSUS NEWS - History in the making. Camden County is now the fastest growing county in Georgia. The up-to-date census report shows that Camden now has a population of 30,167. Unincorporated areas 16,064. Woodbine 1,212. Kingsland 4,699. St. Marys 8,187.

FROM CUMBERLAND ISLAND

Society member Carol Ruckdeschel writes "A headstone for Mrs. B.G. Alberty was purchased and placed in the High Point Cemetery the end of July. Funds for the stone were collected by the Cumberland Island Museum. The next cemetery project sponsored by the Museum will be to acquire headstones for the Trimmings family. Donations may be sent to: The Cumberland Island Museum, P.O. Box 796, St. Marys, GA 31558

OTHER BOOKS WORTH NOTING

PIONEERS OF FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST: If you have ties with Florida and most "old" Camden families do, you will be

interested in this. Order from Southern Genealogical Exchange Society, P.O. Box 2801, Jacksonville, FL 32202. \$40.

EARLY DAYS ON THE GEORGIA TIDEWATER: THE STORY OF MCINTOSH COUNTY AND SAPELO. Buddy Sullivan has published a great county history, and since McIntosh's story overlaps in many ways with Camden this makes owning your personal copy a necessity for history buffs. \$39.95 plus \$3 mailing from McIntosh County Commissioners, P.O. Box 584, Darien, GA 31305.

GEORGIA: THE WPA GUIDE ITS TOWNS AND COUNTRY-SIDE. This long out of print book covering the 1930s in Georgia offers material now neglected with a general background on many of the cities and tours of the rural areas. Hardbound copies are \$34.95. Softback, \$16.95, plus \$2 mailing. University of South Carolina Press, 1716 College St., Columbia, S.C. 29208

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 1991

President: John Christian
Vice President: Henry Williams
Treasurer: Mildred Walko
Recording Secretary: Dot Holstun
Corresponding Secretary: Eloise Bailey
Directors: Dot Barker, Jessie Bryant, Marjorie Waters

Archives: John Christian
Historic Sites: Dan Williams
Orange Hall: Marjorie Waters
Museum: Dorsey Harris
Cemetery: Stanley Walko
Program: Henry Williams
Mailings: Minnie Johnson
Membership: Dot Holstun
Publicity & Parliamentarian: Marjorie Waters
Nominating Committee: D. Holstun, Muriel Williams, Jessie Bryant, Debra Vasquez
Newsletter: Eloise Bailey

THANK YOU'S - to Gwen Thomas, who so graciously served as president for two terms despite her whirlwind schedule — to Debra Vasquez who served so well for the past two years as Society treasurer. Her timely bookkeeping eased the work of other members immeasurably.
— to Camden Printing for, as always. A job well done.

SPECIAL NOTE:

You and your guests are cordially invited to attend the exhibit and reception honoring Women of South Coastal Georgia. Camden Honorees, Jessie Bryant, Mary Root, Eloise Bailey are among those featured. Bryan-Lang Historical Library, Sunday, February 24th, 1991 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES

DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 1. If you are not an Early bird and have already sent yours, please do so. Send them in before March 15 to take advantage of the present rate - they will go up after that date!!!
NOTICE: New Treasurer - Mildred Walko, 800 Margaret St., St. Marys, GA 31558

() Renewal
Name _____ () New

Address _____

City & State _____

() Individual \$5.00 () Family \$12.00 () Student \$1.00