



# Gule News

FEBRUARY 1994

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## COME JOIN MEMBERS AND GUESTS FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF 1994

Tuesday, February 15, 7:00 in the Gule Room, St. Marys Library. Executive Session 6:30.

## JOIN IN WOODBINE'S CENTENNIAL BY VIEWING IT'S HISTORY VIA VIDEO

Camden County's County Seat, along with other towns and settlements that grew on the railroad, had it's beginning with the opening of the railroad in 1894.

Among the many ongoing activities in Woodbine was the filming of a video giving the town's history in pictures and interviews. This will be your opportunity to discover the town's past - from the rice plantation to the twentieth century.

## DUES MAY NOW BE PAID!!

Gule Historical Society's year runs from January - December and dues become payable on January 1. A few early birds have taken care of theirs, but if you have not, please send ASAP to Mildred Walko, 800 Margaret Street, St. Marys, GA 31558. The enrollment for 1993 was 38 families and 71 individuals.

Individual-\$8 — Family-\$15 — Student-\$2

Paid to date (1/24): William Stoddard family; Phil Jory family, Atlanta; Dot Holston (& 95); Charles Tompson family; Jim Talley family; Carlton Bunkley; William E. Tompson, Savannah; Barbara Parrish, Jacksonville; Harris Wynn, III family, Atlanta (new); Charles Smith, Jr. family.



Last single room school house in Camden County, at Burnt Fort, May 1981

## BRUNT FORT SCHOOL

For several years, a move has been afoot to restore the Burnt Fort one-room school house dating to the days when single teacher schools dotted Camden County. Only a few who attended there are still in the county with memories of the "old days". The Vocelle family has pushed for restoration since their mother was among the many who started a teaching career in that building. They have contributed a sum to start the work, as has the Georgia State Chapter on the National Society Daughters of the American Colonists.

Mrs. Sarah Buie, who owns the surrounding property on which the school stands, has offered enough property to make the work feasible. Burnt Fort Chapel and Cemetery are adjacent to the school. If you would like to make a contribution to this project, send it to the Burnt Fort School, care of Bryan Lang Historical Library, P.O. Box 725, Woodbine, GA 31569. If you would like more details, call John Christian at the library 576-5601, ext. 219.

## CAMDEN'S CHALLENGE, AN UPDATE

Good news: The revised and updated county history is in the publisher's hands and will be on sale this summer. Peggy Aronson, who worked so diligently and patiently for nine

months to add new families and information, including an entire chapter on Kings Bay, finished the manuscript in December and now W.H. Wolfe, Publishers are at work. Requests for family information brought good response and the new edition will have 456 families, including those previously printed.

Watch for details on ordering in next month's Gule News. There will be a pre-publication price good until May 1 that will be of interest to you. Prices and ordering information in March issue.

## 1994 CALENDAR, TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

January - Planning session with Historical Society Board Members

February - Meeting, February 15, 7:00, St. Marys, Library

March - Tour of Camden County, details next newsletter

April - General meeting

May - Ramble to Frederica and Lighthouse Museum on St. Simons

June - August - Vacation

September - Ramble to Waycross Heritage Center

October - Ramble to Cumberland Island (election of officers)

November - General Meeting, Officer's installation.

## 1994 OFFICERS

President and Archives - John Christian; Vice President and Program - Henry Williams; Treasurer - Mildred Walko; Recording Secretary - Caroline Covert; Corr. Secretary and Newsletter - Eloise Thompson; Orange Hall - Linda Love; Publicity and Museum - Claudia Blankenship; Cemetery - Stanley Walko; Parliamentarian - Bill Blankenship; Membership - Dot Holston; Nominating Committee - Betsy Thomas; Mailing - Minnie Johnson and Dot Holston.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM PRESIDENT JOHN

Welcome to Gule's World

Walk with us on yesterday's path

Wearing in Gule our forefather's hat

Enjoying the thrilling tales of the past

Embracing stories that will surely last

Learning from the past a little bit

Laughing enough to keep us fit

Calling all people to be a friend

Caring for one another to the end

Organizing to keep us going

Opening the mind's eye to see us growing

Manna to whet one's appetite

Making merry each meeting night

Encouraging each one; Friend or foe

Enslaving to history those who know.

We've tried to say in a poetic way

'ere's hoping you'll fall under our sway

Leap into Gule Historical Society

Come on, be a part of notoriety

Oh! How you'll enjoy yourself

Manage to keep wary of some elf

Exert energy, get into high gear

Enter with us another New Year!

## GAULE'S BEGINNING

Gule Historical Society came into existence in 1978 with the help of the Coastal Georgia Historical Society and Mac Burdette of what was then the CAPDC. Several meetings to organize were held under their guidance until a set of bylaws could be written and the society became official.

The Coastal group offered a savings bond for the most

appropriate name. John Bailey, who became the first president, suggested Guale, a name the Spanish once gave to coastal Georgia taken from the Indians of this region.

Charles Smith, Jr. secured the Articles of Incorporation so that Society could become a nonprofit group in order to undertake various preservation projects.

Charter members who have held membership each year since 1978 are Dot Barker, Dot Holstun, Tilden and Arlene Norris, Eloise Thompson, Flem and Peggy Hall, Wanda and Ardis Bennett, Mignon Sterling, Edith Willingham, and Shirley Thompson.

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I REMEMBER CUMBERLAND by Society member and St. Simons resident Mary Miller is a must-have for local history buffs. This is based on her series of articles appearing in the Mullet Wrapper, a small paper printed by Janis Davis for the National Park Service. If you have read Miss Miller's CUMBERLAND ISLAND, THE UNSUNG NORTHEAST, then you know that she was reared on the island and has been returning throughout her long and active life. This latest book is one that could have only been written by a Cumberland native. It is available at the local book store.

**Reminder** - Meeting February 15, 7:00. Board Members 6:30. St. Marys Library.