



Guale News

JANUARY 2000

VOLUME 20, NO. 1

GUALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FIRST MEETING - YEAR 2000

**Tuesday, February 8 Guale Room St. Marys
City Library 7:00 Executive Session 6:30
HERBERT ROWLAND AND BOTTLES**

Local History Through Bottle Collecting, Understanding old Bottles, Determining Authentic from Fake - this program was originally scheduled when Hurricane Floyd was also scheduled, thus a delay.

Herbert has among his collection bottles from many St. Marys sites including the Ross Inn, an ancient pub (with ghost). This was later the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Rudolph.

Mr. Rowland has generously agreed to reschedule his program and all members and guests will find this of interest. He is a St. Marys native with his maternal side living in St. Marys since the 1700s. He has often shared his keen interest and knowledge of local history with other groups, particularly with his Social Studies class at Camden Middle School.

This is a "can't miss this one" type of program.



In 1915, Q. L. Claxton established the Kingsland Coca-Cola Bottling Works. When his franchise from Brunswick Coca-Cola Company was not renewed, the business became Claxton Bottling Works. The plant closed in 1953.

FUTURE PROGRAM PLANS

At the annual Guale Historical Society supper meeting planning session on January 11, these future meetings were scheduled.

March 14 Cemeteries of Camden County presented by Tara Fields; more details in next newsletter.

Saturday, April 8 Ramble through Historic District of St. Marys with Eloise Thompson.

Other rambles and speakers will be announced when details are completed - watch for a Camden County Ramble and one outside the county. You may be sure that all will be something you will want to be involved in.

BURNT FORT SCHOOL - AN UPDATE

As you remember from a previous newsletter, restoration has begun on Camden County's only remaining one room school located at Burnt Fort. Member Shirley Thompson is soliciting funds for this worthwhile project and Rodney Sheffield is heading the construction committee. More details about the work will be given at the February meeting.

This school was built at the turn of the last century and used until all the small schools were consolidated in the 1920s. Neighborhood children then began attending the larger more modern school in White Oak.

If you would like to help preserve this portion of Camden County history, please contact Shirley at 576-5084.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE HEADS FOR THE NEW YEAR

President - Rodney Sheffield
Vice President - Eloise Thompson
Treasurer - Mildred Walko
Recording Secretary Susan Lee
Corresponding Secretary - Joyce Smith
Directors - James Stacy, Charles Thompson, Bebe Williams
Publicity - Bill Blankenship
Archives and Scrapbook - to be named
Newsletter and Publications - Eloise Thompson
Cemetery (Oak Grove) - Stanley Walko
Program - Rodney Sheffield
Mailing - Minnie Johnson
Nominating - Roy and Iris Norton
Cemetery Cataloging - to be announced

MEMORIAL MARKER FOR COURTHOUSE LAWN

George L. Hannaford, on behalf of the American Legion, is heading a long overdue project to honor all Camden County men killed in war action beginning with World War I. If you have any corrections or additions to this list, please call him at 576-5321 or write him - PO Box 254, Woodbine, GA 31569. Please help assure that this list is correct!

The Skills USA/Vica Club with instructors Carlos Jones and Allen Powers and club president Catherine Eddleman are in charge of the monument design.

WORLD WAR I:

Enoch Moody	Clairborn Mott
Thomas W. Perry	Charles Scott
Walter Scott	

WORLD WAR II:

James Wilford Barber	William R. Blount
James Jarratt Brown	William Edward Dyal
Hosea Fleming	W. L. Harrison
Ray Thurston Ivey	John McDowell King
Gilbert Lee	Thomas J. Littlefield, Jr.
H. E. Mullins	William Reardon
Wesley Robinson, III	James Ryals
Herman M. Sessions	Joe Sibley
Cornelius Simmons	Joseph Everett Williamson
Woodrow Wilson	Ivey Hamilton Wingate

KOREAN WAR:

George Edward Carter

VIETNAM WAR:

Larry Bailey	Rodney M. Davis
Mack H. Dilworth, Jr.	Benton J. Griffin
Bobby Harden	Oscar King Higginbotham
Rayford Alexander King (is this the same man as Alexander King?)	
Johnny Wheeler	LeRoy White
Garnell Yarbrough	

GEORGE BANCROFT PROJECT ON SCHEDULE AT BASE

Ground has been broken and earth moving is taking place to have the site ready to erect the sail of the decommissioned sub George Bancroft. Guale Historical Society members voted at the November meeting to contribute \$500 to this project. Plans call for a dedication program in late spring.

If you would like to make a personal donation, you may send it to the Submarine Museum, 102 St. Marys Street W, St. Marys, GA 31558.

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

Buddy Sullivan's history of Bryan County FROM BEAUTIFUL ZION TO RED BIRD CREEK has now been released. This comprehensive 436 page book includes many old pictures and details of early plantation days, as well as the history of the Henry Ford era and his impact on Bryan County. Family seekers will find it more than helpful with early deed and tax records, as well as cemetery records ca. 1850-1960. A list of settlers from colonial times to the mid-antebellum days is also included. You may order from Bryan County Commissioners, Bryan County Courthouse, Pembroke, GA 31321. \$55 includes mailing.

CAMDEN'S CHALLENGE, a History of Camden County, was reissued in 1994 with revisions and additions. You may order from Bryan-Lang Historical Library, PO Box 725, Woodbine, GA 31569. \$30 with \$4 mailing.

Still available: ST. MARYS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1799-1999 by Eloise Thompson. In addition to the church's history this contains biographical material on 200 years of ministers, as well as early marriage, baptism, and death records. Order from St. Marys United Methodist Church, 106 E. Conyers Street, St. Marys, GA 31555. \$15 with \$3 mailing.

In the works - Bryan Lang Historical Library has announced that it is reprinting PEN PORTRAITS with the permission of the Woodbine Woman's Club. These sketches of Camden County women and their families were first printed in 1969. Details will follow in a later newsletter.

FROM BRYAN-LANG HISTORICAL LIBRARY

Darren Harper, the librarian for the library, has settled in quite nicely and has some great plans to bring the library into the new century.

Darren is a resident of Brunswick and has a degree in Historic Preservation from Savannah College of Arts and Design. He is a member of Old Town Brunswick Preservation Association, Chairman of the Brunswick Historical Museum, board member of the Historical Preservation Advisory Council of the RDC, and a member of the Brunswick Historical Preservation Review Board.

He has been making an inventory of the Bryan-Lang material with an eye to making the books and files more user friendly. "I'm hoping to have the books and files organized so that family researchers will be able to work with minimal assistance." He foresees that more and more patrons will be visiting the library as additional materials are added, "The African-American heritage section is one area that needs more family files and books."

If you would like to assist with library work, please give Darren a call at 576-5841, Monday through Friday 8-5.

KEVIN WISE COMPLETES EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Long overdue work at Oak Grove Cemetery in St. Marys has been completed as Kevin Wise's Eagle Scout project -the reworking of the board listing burials through 1982 with coordinates so that the graves can be located more easily.

Guale Historical Society mapped the cemetery and built the original board with the maps and index in '52. Not only did Kevin upgrade the listings on the board, placing the material on both sides, he has also compiled the material in a notebook and placed copies with the Historical Society and Orange Hall.

Kevin Wise has been in scouting since 1991 and has now achieved the highest rank, Eagle Scout, in scouting. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Wise, a freshman at Camden County High School, and a straight A student. He and his family are members of St. Marys United Methodist Church.

Mackie Dekle assisted Kevin at the outset of this project by giving him a tour of the cemetery to familiarize him with the families buried there. Kevin's brother Jacob, now a Webelo, hopes to follow in Kevin's steps when he becomes an Eagle Scout by using updated material to add another board in the newer section of the cemetery.

OTHER NEWS

Honorary Society member Buddy Sullivan has been awarded the DAR History Award Medal by the office of the Historian General of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Congratulations, Buddy!

ARE YOU A MEMBER?

It's time to renew! Would you like to be a member? We invite you to join.

As a member - you will attend exciting programs, bringing the past to life

- you will travel throughout the area on rambles, visiting historical sites

- you will receive newsletters bringing updates on historical events

To become a member or to renew - send your dues to Mildred Walko, 800 Margaret Street, St. Marys, GA 31558.

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

If you plan to move, please send your change of address to Guale News, PO Box 398, St. Marys, GA 31555 or call newsletter editor Eloise Thompson 912-882-4587.

EARLY BIRDS: Family Memberships - Charles Curry, William Kelley, John Love (2001), Frank Stagl, H. A. Bennett, Howard Davis, Lanny Morton Vernon Johnson, Quincy Adams, James Stacy, Bob Smith, Sam Lee, Charles Thompson, Derek McAleer, Alan Bailey, Joe Chaney, Charles Smith (Life), Jasper Lang, Fred Mercier, Roy Norton, George Sweat.

Individuals - Kent Chauncey, Bill Davis, W. C. King (2001), Patricia McMillan, William E. Thompson, Suzanne Hardee, Edith Willingham, Maxine Wells, Betty Gruver, Shirley Thompson, Bill Blankenship, Dot Holstun (Life) Caroline Anderson, Ruby Woods, Patricia Barefoot, Jackie Biggane, Maybelle Gilfillan, Jean Mizell.

We'll look forward to seeing you at the February meeting, Tuesday the 8th, 7:00 p.m., Guale Room, St. Marys City Library! Think BOTTLES!