

Guale Rews

NOVEMBER 1993

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THE SPIRITS ARE ALIVE AND WELL

Frank Ward, Student of the Supernatural is to speak Tuesday, November 9; 7:00, Guale Room, St. Marys Library. Executive Session 6:30

Mr. Ward, who has retired to Brantley County has long studied "things that go bump in the night," and will present some of the information that he has gathered through the years. He has spent time in south Georgia buildings, including those in Camden County that are known to have strange happenings in their history. This will be a program you will not want to miss, as he explains some of his findings using, not mere instinct, but sophisticated instruments that record his findings. A great treat is in store for you!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The nominating committee headed by Betsy Thomas will present the slate for 1994, and the election will be held immediately after. 1993 officers have been: President, John Christian; Vice President and Program Chairman, Henry Williams; Treasurer, Mildred Walko; Recording Secretary, Caroline Covert; Recording Secretary and Newsletter Editor Eloise Thompson; Directors, Dot Barker, Gwen Thomas, Marjorie Waters.

CITY OF WOODBINE TO HAVE HOMECOMING NOVEMBER 14 - 12 NOON

All former residents and those with any connections with the town are invited to "Come Back Home" - to dinner at the new Woodbine Elementary School right after church. The city is providing the meats and volunteers other dishes - you may bring a dish if you wish. This will be a time of reminiscing and to see the video just produced showing Woodbine in the "olden" days from photographs and the up-to-date Woodbine. Come take part!!

MARKER AT RUINS

As you know, the McIntosh Sugarhouse ruins were named to the National Register of Historical Places several years ago, and the Society bought a bronze marker showing this. The Camden County Recreation Department, headed by Jimmy Gisi, oversees the site and has now mounted the marker in front of the east wall.

They have also done some extra work - removing a vandalized picnic table and spraying vines trying to cover the walls again. Thank you Recreation Department!

BOY SCOUTS RESPOND

Last issue of the Guale News appealed for help in repairing the Oak Grove bulletin board and replacing the discolored lists and maps. Boy Scout Troop #500 with the help of Patricia Smith and Rosalie Kelly have done this - helping Guale Historical Society and earning credit toward Merit Badges, as well. THANK YOU TROOP #500.

CARNEGIE RECORDS OPEN TO RESEARCHERS

From the summer issue of the Georgia Historical Quarterly - the Carnegie Estate Records of Cumberland Island are now open for research at the Georgia Archives. These are the records of the Thomas Carnegie family concerned with the administration of the island from the 1880s until 1959. The donation of these papers was made possible by family members, especially Mary R. Bullard, who also assisted with their accession. An unpublished inventory has been indexed. Manuscript collections may be used from 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. on weekdays and from 9:30 to 3:30 on Saturdays.

COOKBOOK WANTED

Do you have a copy of your great-grandmother's handwritten recipe book? Maybe you ran across one at a flea market - maybe there was one in your attic - at any rate, here's your chance to share it and receive a reward at the same time! The Beehive Foundation, a nonprofit publisher of Georgia books, wants to publish an authentic early 19th century Georgia cookbook. It must be a book of family recipes and remedies, handwritten, dating from 1780 to 1860. The Foundation is offering a \$1,000 reward for the most interesting one submitted, which will be published, then given free to Georgia libraries and sold to individuals without profit through the Beehive catalog.

If you have one and would like to submit it, send a copy and a brief history of the person who wrote it to Betty Ann Lichner, The Beehive Foundation, 321 Barnard Street, Savannah 31401. Unless otherwise requested, all cookbooks submitted will be given to the University of Georgia Library.

MORE ON THE HORSE DRAWN HEARSE

Years ago, Oak Grove Cemetery in St. Marys had its very own horse drawn hearse bought from Miller Furniture Store in Brunswick, used! It was used on the grass covered streets in St. Marys until gas powered vehicles came into being, then stored in a garage built especially for that purpose in the cemetery. Finally, it was given or sold to McCall Oxley of Fernandina who handled the majority of the local funerals for there was no Camden County funeral director at that time.

He loaned it to the city of Gainesville, Florida for their centennial celebration and it never came home. Finally, Alton and Dot Murray went in search following every clue they could, but no success. A couple of months ago a writer for the Historical News read its story in St. Marys Forgotten History and printed a plea for its return. In response has now come a letter from Sharon Irwin of St. Simons who believes she might indeed have spotted it a few years ago in her hometown of Milledgeville.

She stated that it was in front of the Williams Funeral Home there, until several residents complained and it then disappeared. Who knows it may be "ours"! - BUT who can say??



Old Oak Grove Hearse as seen in Gainesville, Florida.

FROM OTHER AREAS

Bulloch County-The town of Portal in Bulloch County now has several downtown properties on the National Register: The Stewart Stores which date from the early 1900s and consists of a pharmacy, a general store, a storage building and a commissary; the Dr. James Steward House also. They were named because of their significance as examples of early 20th century vernacular commercial properties. The house is an outstanding example of the Folk Victorian style built in a small town setting. The Portal Heritage Society owns these properties, which have been restored as museum facilities.

Wayne County-The Wayne County Heritage Center in Jesup was dedicated in July with guest speaker Dr. Del Presley, Director of Georgia Southern University Museum. The Heritage Center is located in an early 20th century railroad secion house, which has been refurbished by the Wayne County Historical Society. It contains artifacts associated with the county dating from Indian relics to early turpentine industry tools. The Heritage Center is open by appointment. (Stanley Whonic 912/427-3991)

Montgomery County-One of Georgia's original counties, Montgomery, celebrated its bicentennial in October. This is of interest to many Georgians who trace their ancestors to this county that once encompassed land now covered by twelve counties: Montgomery, Candler, Emanuel, Evans, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Laurens, Tattnall, Toombs, Treutlen, Wheeler. If you are interested in research in this area - two libraries that have a lot of information are the Regional Library located in Swainsboro and the one in Statesboro. Both have books, microfilm and other resources readily available.

Liberty County-Near Midway, stands the recently re-

Liberty County-Near Midway, stands the recently restored one-room Seabrook School. This has stood for nearly 100 years, beginning as a freedman's school. The work has been done by the Seabrook Foundation in their effort to preserve and promote understanding of the vanishing rural coastal African-American culture. This stands next to the historic Palmyra Baptist Church and is a living history community with farm, homes and the school.

MEMBERSHIPS

Those joining since last newsletter: Andrew Cooey, Brunswick; Carl Meeks family; David Richmond family; Maxine Wells, Statesboro; Mrs. Hamilton Davis, St. Augustine; James Vocelle Family, Vero Beach.

If you have failed to renew: send to treasurer Mildred Walko, 800 Margaret Street, St. Marys, GA 31558. Individual \$8. Family \$15. Student \$2.

Reminder - Tuesday, November 9, 7 p.m.: Executive Session 6:30.