



Guale News

NOVEMBER 1996

VOLUME 15, NO. 5

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO MEET...

Tuesday, November 12, 7:00

Guale Room, St. Marys City Library

Executive Session 6:30

Anna White, Director of the Family History Center at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, to speak.

She will explain the genealogical resources available to those visiting this access point for any material available in the Salt Lake City Family History Library.

The main library in Utah was founded in 1895 to help families trace their ancestry and has become one of the largest of its kind in the world. The collection there includes over 1.5 million rolls of microfilm records, 200,000 microfiche and over 8 million family group sheets which are available to researchers.

The local center has three microfiche readers, three microfilm readers and a computer. It is located in the church building on Colerain Road next to Camden High.

The public is welcome and if you wish to visit the center, go to the rear of the church building and ring the bell. It is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday - 8:30-12:30 and 6-9.

Come to the meeting on the 12th and hear Anna tell what else is available at the county's newest library.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

No Debates! No Political Rallies! No Bumper Stickers!

Election time is here in Guale Historical Society, so come and cast your vote. This suggested slate will look familiar for all 1996 officers have agreed to serve again. If you wish to nominate others, including yourself - please feel free to come to the November 12th meeting and throw your hat in!

PRESIDENT - Dr. John Christian
VICE PRES. - Eloise Thompson
TREAS. - Mildred Walko
REC. SEC. - Susan Lee
CORR. SEC. - Virginia Christian

Directors are elected for three year terms and will be up for re-election in 1997. Jeanne Hurt, Charles Thompson, Bebe Williams are the sitting directors.

Committee heads are positions named by the president.

MEMBERSHIPS

Those joining since the September newsletter: Agnes McArthur (also '97); Catherine MacDonell; Dottie West (new); Genevieve Silvear; Martha Brandon ('97); Mary Louise Nelson, Fernandina; Kent Chauncey, Utah; James F. Jamison, Pennsylvania (new); Jim Burnham Family (new); George Long Family. Other Early Birds for '97 are Alex Williams (also '98); Betsy Thomas.

January marks the beginning of a new year for Guale Historical Society and dues are dated from January 1. If you want to pay now, send to Mildred Walko, 800 Margaret Street, St. Marys 31558. Family memberships are \$15. Individual \$8. Student \$2.

GENEALOGY CORNER

First a correction to last issue's Gideon Mallette thanks to eagle-eye member Bill Davis. Gideon Mallette married first Sarah Brown Chevalier on January 16, 1849 (newsletter had 1852). He married Susan Lang on July 5, 1853. (July 5 is correct)

Early Casey Family Members

This information is from CAMDEN'S CHALLENGE, census and cemetery records, and other sources.

It appears that widow Jane Nichols Casey was the first Casey to move to Camden County. She is believed to be the daughter of William Nichols and born in Richmond County (Augusta). It

is not known where or when her husband William Casey died. By the time of the 1830 census she was already in Camden County and listed as a head of household with 2 boys and 3 girls in her home. In 1850 she, age 60, was living with her son Abraham. She is last shown in the 1860 census, living in a house between her sons Abraham and William.

Family member Julia Casey Watson said that the original Casey place was near the Mallette place west of Kingsland and that the older Caseys were buried in a now lost cemetery near there.

In 1850, Abraham is shown as head of household with these family members in his home: his mother Jane, Elizabeth 19, Abraham 1, Ann 15, Jane 4 months and Henry 10 (a mulatto). In 1860 Camden County Census, he is 40 years old. His wife Josephine, age 26 (Higginbotham) was born in Nassau County, Florida. The children: A.D. age 11, Jane E. age 9, M.A. 7, D.C. 3, Jos. 2. The 1870 census lists these children: Nancy 14, Joseph 12, John 10, Josephine 8, Fansey? 6, William 4, and unnamed child 7 months.

He and his wife are not shown in the 1880 census and may well have moved to Nassau County.

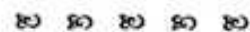
Only two marriages are known for Abraham's children. Ann married on May 17, 1854 Stephen Williams. Joseph married Georgia Ann Russell on February 15, 1877.

Jane's son William married Adeline King, daughter of Thomas King III, on February 18, 1835 in Camden County. In the 1840 Nassau County census, William is shown with his wife, a son and daughter, both under five.

In 1850, William age 42 and Adeline age 32 have these children in the home: Lucinda 15, Isaiah 11, William 8, Maria 5, Tamsey 3, Jackson 2. In 1860 Thomas age 6 was listed.

William died sometime between the 1870 census and 1880, when Adeline is shown as head of the household.

The known marriages of William's children are: Lucinda married William F. Williams, William Nichols (1842-1917) married Mary Haddock, Tamsey married John Marr, Thomas E. (1854-1932) married Jane Haddock



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A heartfelt thank you to all officers and committee heads for steering Guale Historical Society through the past year - to all who gave such enthusiastic programs: Bill Blankenship giving the histories of the Camden County libraries; Jack Mays presenting facts about the upper St. Marys River settlements; Buddy Sullivan talking about the NEW GEORGIA GUIDE and coastal Georgia; Rodney Sheffield using words, pictures and documents to give the history of early Baptist Churches in Camden County - to Bill and Teresa Kirby for opening their historic home Black Hammock to Society members for May's Ramble - to all who participated in making March's ramble at the McIntosh Ruins and downtown St. Marys such a success - to Mildred Walko for keeping financial records straight - to Susan Lee for mailing membership cards - to Minnie Johnson for getting the newsletters out on time - to Charles Thompson for printing and reprinting mailing labels - to Jerry Lockhart and Camden Printing for a "neat" newsletter - to the staffs of both St. Marys City Library and Camden County Library for their graciousness in sharing their meeting rooms with Guale Historical Society - and to all members for support of Guale Historical Society!

LETTERS FROM MEMBERS

The newly discovered grave in the Dungeness Cemetery has brought some interesting comments about its occupant (even the farout suggestion that Lighthorse Harry Lee's horse was buried there, said in jest, but recorded seriously by Times Union reporter)

Foremost Cumberland historian and Society member Mary Bullard has written this to Cumberland Island staff member Zach Kirkland and shares her thoughts with Guale News readers. She also asks that anyone with information on this topic, please

contact her at 5 Sunview Terrace, So. Dartmouth, MA 02748.

"...In my opinion, the crypt may have been built in 1880 by General William George Mackay Davis, then living at Dungeness. In the spring of that year, Bernard M. Davis, his son (also living at Dungeness with his wife and family) accidentally and fatally, shot his little boy, a grandson of the general. The family was described as 'almost crazed with grief'. In December 1880 Bernard died suddenly and was interred on 2 January 1881 at Dungeness. Shortly after that, General Davis re-opened negotiations with Tom Carnegie, who had tried to make an offer to buy Dungeness in the preceding year, only to be rebuffed. The negotiations proceeded satisfactorily. The general moved from Georgia to Virginia. Davis was originally a Virginia boy, even though he lived and practiced law in Florida for a long time before the war. He was, by the way, Jeff Davis's first cousin and one of the first in Florida to offer his fortune and his person to the confederacy...."

"Nothing could be more natural in 1880 than for him to order construction of a family vault. He was planning to live at Dungeness the rest of his life.... The sudden death of his son Bernard caused him to change his mind. That is definite. He said so in his letter to Tom Carnegie...."

Another letter comes from one of the Historical Society's latest members. Marr Family Historian James F. Jamison of Zelenople, PA writes:

Dear Guale Historical Society:

I have been receiving the Guale News for some time now, and find that I enjoy it very much. ...

My chief genealogical interest in Camden County concerns the Marr family and their related families. I published one book on this family (The Descendants of John and Catherine of Kittery) in 1985. I donated a copy to the Bryan-Lang Library. Currently I am working on a second book on the Marr family entitled The Descendants of John Marr 1694-1994.

There is much I do not know about the Marrs in Camden County, but what I have learned comes mainly through the help of Juanita (Marr) Brooks of Woodbine and Dr. John Christian. I am grateful to both of them for their help....

I would like to hear from other descendants of both John and Joseph Marr who came from Maine and settled in Georgia in the 1830s. Both John and Joseph married Caseys, hence information about the Caseys would be helpful. ... (Ed. note, John Marr married Tamsey Casey June 11, 1840. Joseph married Jane Casey on April 27, 1843.)

With great thanks to those of you who have already made contributions to my knowledge of the Marrs of Camden County, and to those of you who might choose to contact me, I send greetings.

Sincerely,
James F. Jamison,
119 N. Milton St.,
Zelenople, PA 16063-1042

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

A little help with your Christmas Shopping -CAMDEN'S CHALLENGE, A HISTORY OF CAMDEN COUNTY. This updated county history includes chapters of communities, schools, civic organizations, churches and families, as well as an entirely

new chapter on Kings Bay. This hardcover book costs \$30 plus \$4 shipping. You may buy it in the county at Bryan-Lang Library in Woodbine or in St. Marys at Orange Hall, the Blue Goose or the Bookseller. If you need to order send request to Bryan-Lang Library, PO Box 725, Woodbine, GA 31569.

Woodbine United Methodist Church celebrated its 100th year, and to update its history interviewed a number of its older members. These interviews have been reproduced on video along with the Homecoming Service. If you would like a copy, contact Virginia Buchanan 912-576-5307. Cost \$20.

THE NEW GEORGIA GUIDE covers all of Georgia giving history and travel hints section by section. \$39.95 hardback \$19.95 soft cover. It is available at area bookstores.

FROM OTHER SOCIETIES

Coastal Georgia Historical Society fall meeting will be held at Ft. Frederica on Sunday, November 17, 3:00. Dr. George F. Jones will speak on "Germans at Frederica". Free and open to the public.

Georgia Historical Society and Society of Georgia Archivists are offering workshops focusing on the care and preservation of historical records. Oglethorpe Pt. Elementary School on St. Simons is the location for the December 7 workshop. Cost \$10 which includes lunch and resource packets. If interested call the Georgia Historical Society for registration form. 912/6384666

If you would like to receive the Cumberland Island Museum newsletter, send \$15 annual fee to PO Box 796, St. Marys, GA 31558. This is a good way to know what is happening in the natural history world of Cumberland.

The one remaining lecture in the fall series sponsored by the Georgia Historical Society will be held at Hodgson Hall, 501 Whitaker Street, Savannah. On December 5, 6:00, Dr. Gary Fink of Georgia State University will speak on "The Political Career of Jimmy Carter".

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NOVEMBER MEETING AND NEWSLETTER THE LAST FOR 1996

Since this is the last newsletter for 1996, may we wish you a Cheery Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The January meeting is always an executive planning session, so if you have any suggestions for programs, projects or prolonged rambles, please contact Dr. Christian during business hours at 576-5841.

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REMINDER: Meeting at St. Marys City Library's Guale Room Tuesday, November 12. 7:00, Executive Session 6:30. Speaker ANNA WHITE.