



Guale News

SEPTEMBER 1995

VOLUME 14, NO. 4

**STEPHEN COFER-SHABICA,
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OCEANOGRAPHER
TO SPEAK**

**GUALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO MEET
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

**Guale Room, St. Marys Library 7:00 p. m.
Executive Session 6:30 p.m.**

Come visit Cumberland Island the easy way, no bugs, heat or jellyfish stings. Enjoy the natural history of the island in the comfort of air-conditioned splendor.

Dr. Cofer-Shabica has photographed the flora and fauna from one end of the island to the other, making it possible to view via slides many of the plants and animals that you might not see on a day trip to this place apart.

As you well know, Cumberland has been preserved because it is a prime resource in the natural history world. Since so many sections of the island had gone undisturbed for many years, a treasure store of wildlife from sand dunes to salt marsh and from maritime forest to sloughs and ponds awaits the keen observer. And Stephen is such an observer/photographer. You will see the results of some of his studies when you join members and visitors on September 12. This is a "must see" program.

COMING UP

Be prepared for the October Ramble by boning up on your Charlton County history. The Society will be visiting its old county seat and site of one of Georgia's early forts, Trader's Hill. The nearby cemetery is of interest to with many burials closely tied to Camden's history. In fact, you will learn that Charlton was a part of Camden until 1854. Several Society members are "up on" the Trader's Hill story and will provide narration. Watch for date and details in our next newsletter.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

All questions in volume 15, number 3 (mis-labeled April, should have been May) were found in the Floyd's Neck chapter of CAMDEN'S CHALLENGE. If you were at the May meeting, you have learned the answers, if not, here they are:

The earliest land grants were given by the English to Roger Kollsall, James Spalding, William Knox, and John Milledge. (page 181).

Charles Rinaldo Floyd was a poet, planter, painter, and dilettante. (page 185)

As a militia general, John Floyd set aside 200 acres of his land as a military parade ground.

One of the first hunting clubs in America was organized in Floyd's Neck. Many of the landowners of Glynn and Camden counties were members. (page 184)

The Floyd family first settled in McIntosh County when they moved from South Carolina. (page 181)

Are you ready for this month's research? The questions this time come from the Cumberland Island chapter. By the way if you do not have a copy of CAMDEN'S CHALLENGE, you may order from the Bryan-Lang Library, P.O. Box 725, Woodbine, GA 31569. Each copy costs \$30 with \$4, handling and mailing. Make checks to Camden County. Locally copies are available from Bryan-Lang, Orange Hall, Once Upon A Bookseller, and Blue Goose.

Now on with this month's questions:

What two names did the Indians give Cumberland Island?

What did the Spaniards call the island?

Who, prominent in Methodism, visited Cumberland Island during the British period and recorded the trip in his journal?

Who died from the prick of an orange tree thorn?

Which British general was the last to invade Georgia?

NEWS FROM BRYAN-LANG HISTORICAL LIBRARY

Among the new books received this summer are two of local interest. Both are gifts of the authors. *THREE SOUTHERN FAMILIES: HARDEE, JONES, AND DAVIS*, was compiled by a descendant of these three families who have Camden County ties, Dr. J.H. Lewis, Jr. He is a nephew of society member Caroline Anderson. Write South Port Historical Society, 501 N. Atlantic, South Port, N.C. 28461 for ordering information.

Another fascinating edition touches on a long neglected subject in Florida history, cattle growing. Joe Akerman, who teaches history at Madison Junior College, has just released *FLORIDA COWMAN - HISTORY OF CATTLE RAISING IN FLORIDA*. For information on ordering this book, write to Cattlemen's Association, P.O. Box 1929, Kissimmee, FL 32742-1929.

FROM CUMBERLAND ISLAND

Cumberland Island National Seashore has initiated an oral history project to focus on the people who lived and worked on the island from 1800 to the present. The material will be used by staff, researchers, and the public to gain authentic news of island life that would otherwise be lost. Publication will come later.

Anyone who has family members or personal experience are asked to record their histories relating to the island, which will then become a part of documented Cumberland history. Interviews will be conducted at the convenience of those to be interviewed. Please contact Joyce Seward, Box 806, St. Marys, GA 31558 or call 912/882-4336 during office hours 8-4:30.

One of the latest projects of the museum director and Guale Historical Society member Carol Ruckdeschel is the copying and transcribing of older deed records relating to Cumberland Island. This invaluable project will enable researchers to delineate land lines helpful in determining present vegetation patterns. Volunteers are needed for courthouse work. If you are available, please contact the museum by mail or C. Fries in the evening at 904/277-3746.



**Cumberland Island Backpacker, Probably of the 1920's
(Picture Credit- Muriel Williams)**

If you would like to receive the museum's newsletter which covers wildlife issues of the island, you may join this non-profit organization by sending \$15 to Cumberland Island Museum, P.O. Box 796, St. Marys GA 31558.

GENEALOGY CORNER

Guale News in 1995 has been bringing you early Camden County families. Some of the information is taken from the family history section of the county history and some from various volumes of PIONEERS OF WIREGRASS GEORGIA. It is timely this month to present Charlton Mizell and descendants since many of them are Society members and some have assembled this month on a fact finding trip to Camden County.

Research indicates that the original Mizells came into Virginia in the 1600's from France via England. This has yet to be proven. They soon migrated to the Carolina. Several generations of Lukes finally produced Charlton, Sr. who was born in 1727 and married Elizabeth Everett. He and his son Chariton, Jr. moved into Georgia south of the Savannah River and later came into south Georgia and north Florida.

The elder Charlton and his brothers were Loyalists and for a time settled in Florida, possibly dying there. Records also show Charlton, Jr. among Florida settlers. Junior was born in North Carolina in 1773 and died in 1830.

Charlton, Jr. married Mary Blount, daughter of Redding Blount, in 1798. Recent research by descendant Barbara Parrish shows that Blount was murdered by his second wife and son-in-law in north Florida. For more details wait for the novel to come out! Mary Blount Mizell died June 22, 1847 and is buried in the Mills Cemetery in Charlton County.

Charlton's children were: Elizabeth, who married first Robert C. Brown and then John G. Ivey. Sarah, never married. Joshua Everett, who married Letitia Paxton. William married Ann Nelson, Mary Ann married James Paxton. Jackson Blount, who married Elizabeth Lang. Rebecca, who married a Jacksn. Jehu married Martha Udall.

MEMBERSHIPS

It is late in the year, but somehow some of you have overlooked paying your 1995 dues. However, you are still on the mailing list. Some of you receive complimentary copies because of your involvement in publicity or historical projects. Look for a red star. This means that you have not yet paid, according to our records. If you have paid and the star appears, then call Mildred Walko at 882-5294. If you want to renew, send to Mildred at 800 Margaret Street, St. Marys, GA 31558.

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

Those who have renewed since the September newsletter and before 8/1: FAMILIES - Alex D. Williams, Atlanta; Vernon Johnson; Charles Trimble; Kenneth Gay; Terrell Porter. A total for 1995 of thirty-six families.

INDIVIDUALS - Mrs. Joseph Clements; W.C. King, Avondale Estates (96); Geneva Stebbins, Darien (96); Catherine MacDonell; Thomas Cleland, Jacksonville; Carol Jones, Tallahassee (96, 97); Dorothy McCaskill, St. Simons; Laura Nasworthy, St. George (student); Caroline Anderson, Fernandina; Midge Mathews, Raleigh; Kay Johnson, Fernandina. 1995 Individual memberships, fifty-seven.

Thank you to those who send in change of addresses. Some do not, which means newsletters are returned to the Society postage due, and you miss getting your copy. If dues are not current, then you are dropped from the mailing list.