

NEW MEMBERS

LIFE

Aiden Lewis Harrison	Mathias Burgsteiner
Lara Renee Harrison	Mathias Burgsteiner
Emma Nicole Harrison	Mathias Burgsteiner
David Lewis Herrin	Mathias Burgsteiner
Dina Sue Tankersley	Peter Gruber, Martin Dasher

REGULAR

Linda Webb Christy	Martin Dasher
Jennifer Pittman	Johann Heinle
Jane Truitt Dorough Bradley	John Michael Heinsman
James Alan Arnsdorff	Andreas Lorenz Arnsdorff
Michael Clay Nantkes	Daniel Shuptrine
William Richard Helmey, Jr	Johann Nicholas Helmle
William Richard Helmey, III	Johann Nicholas Helmle
Brenda Nell Dasher	Martin Dasher
James Gary Zittrauer	Paulas Zittrauer
William Woodberry Conaway	Charles Conaway

DEADLINE FOR NEXT
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
“Sprig Issue” is
March 1, 2015

The Georgia Salzburger Society
2980 Ebenezer Road
Rincon, GA 31326360
912-754-7001

The GSS extends our sympathy to the families of the following deceased members...we thank you for keeping us informed.

DECEASED MEMBERS

September 2013 to December 2014

Millard Stafford, Sr.	10-08-2013
Donald Evans Austin	10-11-2013
W. Carswell Rahn	10-21-2013
Malcolm Earl Seckinger	11-15-2013
Mary Jane Boykin	11-22-2013
Bernice Arnsdorff Jaudon	1-05-2014
Evelyn L Grovenstein	1-18-2014
Myrtie Wilson Exley	2-02-2014
James Noel Jackson	2-10-2014
Willie Kieffer Tebeau	2-14-2014
Anne Perry	2-26-2014
Mary S. Tootle	3-26-2014
Earl Carlton Knoots	4-15-2014
John W. “Bud” Tebeau	4-30-2014
Josephine Margaret Wolbert Shearouse	12-21-2014

The Georgia Salzburger

Winter 2014

Volume 114, No 16

DR. SABINE SMITH
LANDING DAY SPEAKER



Dr. Sabine Smith, Professor of German at Kennesaw State University (KSU) in Kennesaw, Georgia, is our main speaker this Landing Day at Ebenezer.

Dr. Smith will speak about opportunities for engagement and partnerships, and she will provide us updates on projects pursued by KSU students and staff.

German native and junior scholar Christine Koch, for example, is currently translating Dr. Norbert Stein’s “Chronicle of the Transports: Immigrants from Salzburg 1731 to 1741,” published by the Salzburger Verein Bielefeld in 2011. Stein compiled a condensed chronology of the four transports of Salzburgers to Ebenezer, including dates, names and places as well

as the joys and hardships of the emigrants. Ms. Koch’s translations of accounts in German will allow all of us who do not speak German to deepen our understanding of the four Salzburger transports and the historical documents.

In December 2014, KSU graduate student in American Studies, Joann Trodahl, completed her Masters in American Studies with her thesis “The Salzburger Story and Its Legacy in Rincon, GA.” She summarized available scholarship on the subject, examined publicly available documents that tell the story of the emigrants, and conducted interviews with several descendants in Effingham County. Her findings are now available for review.

In our celebration of Landing Day (281st), we are delighted to have Dr. Sabine Smith as our main speaker.

NEW YEAR 2015

March 1, 2015 will mark the beginning of another new year for the Georgia Salzburger Society. A new year brings new beginnings. At the March 14, 2015 Landing Day meeting, members will be voting on a slate of officers, and five 5 Board of Directors to share responsibilities, along with the incumbents, for three years. We appreciate the dedication and hours of all members in sharing their God given gifts. Blessings to each of the retiring board members as we say farewell ... Libby Heidt, Ruth Dostal, Ginger Kieffer, Gary Nizzi (BOD position) and Larry Zettler. Also blessings to retiring secretary, Mary Sue Kessler, who served as secretary for quite a long term.

When the bells at Jerusalem Church toll, March 14, 2015 as all members and friends of the society meet ... we hope to see many of you. This is the annual business meeting when members are encouraged to attend.

May God’s richest blessings be with you and your love ones and our retiring officers all through the New Year, 2015.

Best of luck and good fortune to all ... this 2015 year
From the
GSS OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY
AND CONTACT
INFORMATION

No newsletters will be mailed unless you contact the office

We have transitioned to Internet & email only delivery of our newsletter content to members of the Georgia Salzburger Society. We ask your patience and understanding on this internet/email based path to deliver newsletter content. Please help us by notifying the office (gaslzbrgr@aol.com or 912-754-7001) of any delivery discrepancies by providing your contact information (name, email address to receive information, phone number, and mailing address).



Georgia Salzburger Society

Founded 1925

2980 Ebenezer Road
Rincon, Georgia 31326

Office Hours:

Tuesday and Friday
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
912-754-7001

E-mail: gaslzbrgr@aol.com

An Affiliate Chapter of the
Georgia Historical Society

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Gary M. Nizzi

VICE PRESIDENT: G. Henry Mingledorff, III

SECRETARY: Mary Sue Kessler

TREASURER: TBA

CURATOR: Sheryl Howell

ASSISTANT CURATOR: Patsy Zeigler

REGISTRAR: Martha Lassiter

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Charlie Arnsdorff

CHAPLAIN: Rev. Dave Rasmussen, Interim

STAFF: ADM. ASS'T: Carolyn Arnsdorff

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Keith W. Zeigler

DIRECTORS

To March 2015

Libby Heidt

Ruth Dostal

Ginger Kieffer

Gary Nizzi

Larry Zettler

To March 2016

Rev. Donald Hanberry

Jay Neurath

Rupert Seckinger

Rev. Katherine Sobey

Virginia Spano

To March 2017

Rev. Kirk Bridges

Claudia Christiansen

Betty Jean Ferguson

G. Henry Mingledorff, III

Josh Zeigler

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or Email: gaslzbrgr@aol.com

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www.georgiasalzburgers.com

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Landing Day meeting on March 14 begins another year of the Society. We will elect a set of officers and a new slate of board members. But most importantly it is our next opportunity to meet together for common fellowship, fulfilling the purpose of the society's goals, honoring our ancestor's intent in founding the society, learning more of our documented history, and worshipping together at Jerusalem. This will be the 281st celebration of landing at Ebenezer. Our program is on the status of Kennesaw student and staff projects. We are very fortunate to have access to distinguished people such as our speaker Dr. Sabine Smith and services of researchers Christine Koch and Joann Trodahl. Stay tuned as more information will follow on these endeavors as well as the translations of the Bergman Letters.

This year provided very successful collaborations with the GSS Society, Jerusalem Church and the Retreat Center. We look forward to continuing these relationships. Also occurring was new effort through the Teutonic Council to unite efforts of the Georgia Salzburger Society, German Heritage Society and the German Friendly Society in Savannah with the local German Honorary Consul to socialize together on German Unity Day with a celebration of food and beverages. An additional challenge going forward is to examine methods to capitalize on the relationship with sister city Halle, Germany, home of the Franke foundation discussed at our Heritage Day Meeting.

Many new members have joined this past year as well as renewal of past memberships. This is very exciting and necessary to promote our charter a good start to improved health of our organization. I look forward to getting many more to actively participate in the society.

We thank you for your support of the society with both talents and monetary gifts and encourage your participation in the committees and fellowship provided through the society. I also encourage you to email suggestions to improve our communications and look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Gary Nizzi

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

... regular (annual) membership dues are now due.

The annual reminders will be forthcoming; however you may remit a check without the form. We are looking forward to an exciting new year! If you would like to get involved give us a call at the office and we'll pass it on to the Officers/Board of Directors. You will enjoy! We are looking for new people with great ideas.

Georgia Salzburger Members

You are invited

To a reception honoring retiree's

Secretary - Mary Sue Kessler

5 Board of Directors

Immediately following Landing Day

Business Meeting

March 14, 2015

In The Seckinger Room,
at the Old Parsonage

"SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER? YES!"

News from the Old Ebenezer Church

Members of Jerusalem Lutheran Church are renovating the amphitheater on the bluff of the Savannah River. Any assistance of time, talent, or donations would be very much appreciated.

The amphitheater is a lovely place to see the Savannah River and imagine the Salzburgers making the trip to Ebenezer for the first time. It is also used for the Easter Sunrise Service which the whole community enjoy.



Library News

Vince Exley did an in-service for the Volunteers on December 13th. The topic was Families with Town Heritage Books in the Loest Research Library.



SAVE THESE DATES

GA Salzburger Society

Landing Day Meeting

Saturday, March 14, 2015 @ 2:00 PM
Jerusalem Lutheran Church,
2966 Ebenezer Rd, Rincon, GA 31326

GA Salzburger Society Board Meeting

Saturday, May 16, 2015 @ 1:00 PM

(Yes a new date...not day before Mother's Day)

Old Parsonage, The Seckinger

Conference RM

2980 Ebenezer Road, Rincon, GA

All board members are urged to attend...our
organization can function properly
only if we all do our part.

MUSEUM AND GIFT SHOPPE NEWS

The GSS Museum is open
Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday (except
holidays)

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Tours ... please call Sheryl Howell, Curator
@ 912.826.2237

or

Patsy Zeigler, Assistant Curator

@ 912.754.3293

for scheduling appointments

The GSS Gift Shoppe has a variety of
booklets and pamphlets as well as other books
in our Gift Shoppe ... items that make great gifts.

We have several new gifts available for
you to purchase: Salzbuger Tumblers, The
"Neidlinger" Book and a reprint of the
"Reiser" Book coming soon

The museum participated with
Jerusalem Lutheran Church for "Christmas at
Ebenezer". We were entertained with music by
Phillip "Len" Morgan on the dulcimer and had a
great reception at the Retreat Center.

WELCOME: We are so happy to welcome
Lisa Waldhour Repasy as our newest staff
volunteer and are so excited for her to be a part
of the family.

Again the museum has a wonderful
family. We would love for you to take a couple
of hours out of your schedule to assist the
museum. We look forward to assisting you in
any way that we can.

MEMORIES OF PAST LABOR DAY

I became a life member of the Georgia Salzburgers in 1992. I have been on the Salzburger Board since 2012. I have not missed many Labor Day Festivals since becoming a member. The demonstration I enjoy the most and like participating in the bread making. This brings back memories as a child growing up. I have my mother's bowl that she always put her bread in to rise. I have in my possession now a large antique tray used for kneading the bread in and also have a large round tray if you make cinnamon rolls to roll them out on.

One other thing we demonstrate is butter making in an old butter churn. I display the churn in my home. We churn the cream into butter and then serve samples of the homemade bread that Mrs. Patsy Zeigler brings from home already baked. She also churns cream into butter and brings the fresh churned butter to eat on her freshly baked bread.



The children at labor day festival enjoy making/shaking sweet cream in small baby food jars. They shake it and they shake themselves making cream into butter. Of course adults enjoy observing these little demonstrators!

Submitted by Libby Arnsdorff Heidt



Why Baskets?

By
Kathleen H. Wendelken

"You made those?" Those were my exact words to my Mama when I went to visit in Chester, South Carolina, one Thanksgiving. I was amazed that my mother had made such beautiful baskets. Mama informed me that she had attended the John C. Campbell Folk School in North Carolina and took a week long basket making class. All of her baskets were made for and given to family and friends. To my knowledge, never once did she sell one. As a child, Mama and I had always made craft items by hand. Most of our extended family made or baked for Christmas gift giving. It was partly out of necessity, not Having the monetary means to buy expensive gifts, but mostly because our family understood that thought, care, time, and love went into the making of each and every personally selected handmade craft or baked good. It was well into my adult years before we ever admitted to my Aunt Eloise that her tin of Christmas cookies and cheese crisps came in pieces through the mail. We enjoyed them with a spoon and we knew a lot of love went into the baking.

I have become an obsessed crafter. I have been cursed with the thought that, "I might be able to make

that." I only sat down for basket weaving lessons with Mama a few times. My daughter Margaret even made several baskets for gifts and fun under 'Grammy's' instruction. One sits on my mantel to this day. When Mama passed away many years ago, I inherited her basket weaving tools and supplies. I regretted never having sat down with her long enough to really learn and decided that it would be very meaningful to attend the John C. Campbell Folk School and take classes. In some way it made me feel close to her, to be in the same place and to take the same class. Well, not wanting to go alone, I convinced Mary Turner to attend with me. Thus, K & M Baskets was born. Mary and I loved making the baskets and spending time together. We attended many craft fairs and had numerous special large orders to fill.

Mrs. Claudine Arnsdorff, my special friend, had demonstrated basket making at the Georgia Salzburger Society's Heritage Day events for many, many years. When she finally decided to retire, she gave me her blessing for Mary and I to begin our tenure. This last year, Marjorie Seckinger joined me, in Mary's absence, in demonstrating old time basket weaving on the porch of the Old Salzburger House.

It has always been a joy to share my second generation love of basket weaving with others and especially at Ebenezer on Heritage Day.



Making Memories

The 2014 Georgia Salzburger Society Labor Day festivities at Jerusalem Lutheran Church, were fun-filled this year. Volunteers particularly focused on engaging children and their families visiting the festival. Some of the structured activities included face-painting and Euchee Indian tribal arts and crafts that was a hit with the youngsters! In addition to these activities, there were many historically based activities for the children, which included home-made butter churning, home-made candle dipping, corn grinding, old-fashioned stilt walking, and other demonstrations including the colonial art of basket weaving. Families were also encouraged to stop inside the social hall for a cake walk. The cup cake walks were enjoyed by the little ones. There were evidence with crumbs and icing on faces as they would eat the cup cake immediately when given to them. Adults had chuckles while observing. We hope that in years to come, that these types of hands on activities will continue to attract young families and their children to attend and participate in our treasured Salzburger traditions!

Amy Mullis Schnobrich

