

. WE ARE SEEKING YOUR HELP !

An in-house audit of LIFE members has brought to our attention names of whom we know is deceased and quite a number in question! We keep a record of all our dear Salzburger members who go before us unfortunately the only way we will know this information is by notation from family/friend. We would appreciate hearing from you of any Salzburger family member who should be transferred to the deceased file . You may notify our office via email **or postal mail – 1980 Ebenezer Rd, Rincon, GA 31326** or leave a message on answering machine.912-754-7001. Thanks!

New Members	
<u>LIFE</u>	<u>Descendant</u>
Keith Guy Groover	Peter Gruber
Richard Edward Barrero	Paulus Zittrauer
Charles Marvin Exley, Jr.	Christian Oechslin
Linda Lang Exley	Associate
Jan McCall Roger	Matthias Seckinger
Phillip Lenix Morgan	Gustave Phillip Morgan
Rebecca Lee Nease	Johann Martin Niess
<u>Regular/Annual</u>	<u>Descendant</u>
Julia Elizabeth Dasher	Martin Dasher
Gloria Tillman Leeb	Peter Gruber
Laurel Jo Shuptrine Keepers	Daniel Schubdrein
Sheila Deanna Wentz	John Weitman
Judy Upchurch Page	Theresia Seckinger Upchurch
Emery Arnold Reed, Jr.	Johann Helfenstein
Darwin Lederle Seckinger	Hans George Seckinger
Francis Chapman Tuttle, Jr.	Charles Ernest Tuttle
Andrew Donald Hanberry	Jacob Metzner
Sanford Gordon Hanberry	Jacob Metzner
Kara Waters Gelderman	Johann Michael Zeigler

The Georgia Salzburger Society

2980 Ebenezer Road

Rincon, GA 31326

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2016 LANDING DAY PROGRAM

The Georgia Salzburger Society welcomes **Thomas Wulfing, Deputy Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany**, as our speaker for **Landing Day, March 12, 2016.** Program and Meeting will begin 2:00 pm in Jerusalem Lutheran Church.

Thomas Wufing Deputy Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Southeastern United States is our speaker

Thomas Wufing... Born April 21, 1958 is married to Janaina Wufing, they have two daughters.

He served July 2013 as Deputy Consul General, German Consulate General, Atlanta, GA

2008 - 2013 Consul General, German Consulate General in Recife, Brazil
2005 - 2008 Deputy Chief of Mission, German Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq
2001 - 2005 Consul, German Consulate General in New York, NY
1999 - 2001 ChargÉ d'affaires, German Embassy in Pyongyang, North Korea
1997 - 1999 Desk Officer, Middle Eastern Affairs, German Foreign Office, Bonn
1994 - 1997 Press AttachÉ, German Embassy in London, United Kingdom
1991 - 1994 Cultural AttachÉ, German Embassy in Colombo, Sri Lanka
1989 - 1991 Diplomatic Academy
1982 – 1986 Economic studies, Universities of Hamburg and Bonn, Germany
1976 - 1982 Army officer

*Please join us for our annual meeting to elect next year’s
officers and board members.*

12:30 PM at Jerusalem Church Fellowship Hall

The Georgia Salzburger Society will serve a meal of “Good Rice Soup” and bread as occurred on **Landing Day, March 12, 1734—the first Landing Day.**

Please notify the office if you would like to join us so we can estimate the amount of food needed. We ask for donations to help defer the cost. Call Carolyn at 912-754-7001 or email her ***to let her know the number in your group dining with us.***

Salzburgers Were Served Rice Soup!

On Landing Day, March 12, 1734—the first Landing Day—the Georgia Salzburgers, after a difficult sea voyage, came ashore in Savannah. They received a celebratory welcome by the people of the town. Pastor Boltzius wrote: “Nearly all the inhabitants of the city of Savannah . . . assembled at the place where our ship was to land. They fired several cannon and shouted with joy.”

The following morning the Salzburgers received their first full meal on shore in Georgia—a breakfast of rice soup. They were hosted by the Benjamin Sheftal family, a Jewish family from Frankfurt on the Oder, who, said Boltzius, “took the Salzburgers in and treated them to breakfast with a good rice-soup.” (*Detailed Reports*, I, pp 59 – 60).



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

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VICE PRESIDENT: G. Henry Mingledorff, III
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To March 2016

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To March 2017

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To March 2018

Ruth Dostal
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Send news and inquiries to:

Georgia Salzburger Society Office
2980 Ebenezer Road, Rincon, Georgia 31326

or Email: gaslzbrgr@aol.com

Website

www.georgiasalzburgers.com

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The celebration of Heritage Day on September 7th had more children and adults than I can remember in attendance. It was certainly one of our largest in attendance ever. Nothing brings more pride than having groups of people celebrating, observing and learning about our ancestors. I most enjoyed all the children having such a great time. It reminded me of when I was young with all my friends running all over the grounds, through the cemeteries, woods and wherever we could go. If you were not able to attend you missed a great get-together. The brief service was really moving with two homilies presenting perspectives on our ancestor's grit and determination. This included an observance of how Christian persecution is happening in the Middle East (Syria region) today. A revelation of how an entire church body was murdered except for the minister who continues to serve (he refuses to leave). So many are fleeing due to persecution for worshiping Christ – sound familiar? This was followed by our program centered by Dr. Russell Kleckley observing many items in the Bergman Letter Translations occurring through the American Revolution. It was riveting and included several “ticklers” with much more to be revealed when published. I thank you for your efforts in getting more of our descendants to join the society which is helping to document more of our heritage for our children and everyone in general. I recently had a discussion with a gentleman who filed paperwork (approximately 76 pages) for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution and now intends to join the Georgia Salzburger Society (not as many pages). He is equally proud of all the achievements of our ancestors. We need members, friends, etc. to help improve our society and welcome everyone.

Once again I thank Jerusalem Lutheran Church and the Retreat Center for use of facilities and all the people that helped make this year's celebration so good through donations of tents, time and talent. The food was great, the exhibits, crafts, wares, stories, education, etc. I think my great-grandfather and the other founders of the society would be proud of our progress toward their goals. This era is crucial and we have a window of opportunity to improve on society accomplishments. I worry that with each generation we are losing some contact (just as the founders did), so we need to document and update information for our heirs and everyone else.

The project for educators to take part in an exchange program in our sister city of Halle is still progressing. Please contact us or your local board of education for more information on this endeavor.

We continue to thank you for your support of the society with both talents and monetary gifts. Remember to put March 12th on your calendar to attend the Landing Day celebration. Continue to email suggestions to improve our communications and I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Gary Nizzi

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.

MUSEUM NEWS

Rahn Book Now in Print

A book tracing the origins of the Rahn family prior to the coming of Conrad Rahn to Ebenezer, GA, in 1750 is now published. Entitled simply *Rahn*, it is the fifth book in the series, *IMMIGRANT FAMILIES IN EBENEZER, GEORGIA*. The book retails for \$34.34 and it is available for purchase in the GSS Museum.

The book was compiled and edited by Vince Exley and the project was sponsored by Rahn descendants, Francis and Evelyn Hutto and Barbara Rahn Scott. The research was ongoing for several years, a work of the GSS Special Genealogical Research Project Committee.

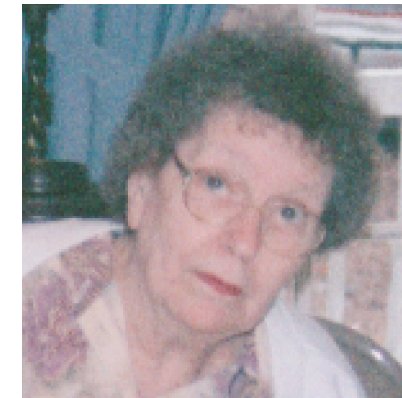
Save These Dates

Ga Salzburger Society
Landing Day Meeting
Saturday, March 12, 2016 @ 2:00 pm
In Jerusalem Church Sanctuary

Bread and Rice Soup @ 12:30 pm
Jerusalem Fellowship Hall – donation
Call us the number in your party eating...see article

Ga Salzburger Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, May 14, 2016
In the Calvin Seckinger Conference RM
2980 Ebenezer Road, Rincon, GA

The Georgia Salzburger Society expresses our Sincere Sympathy to the family of Mrs. Martha LeBey Lassiter.



Ms. Martha will be greatly missed by her Salzburger family. A precious sister has reaped her reward!

2016 GSS HERITAGE TOUR JUNE 11 - 22

Highlights: Wittenberg—the Reformation Town, Halle—the Francke Foundations, Berlin

Cities: Munich, Augsburg, Halle, Wittenberg, Berlin

Estimated cost: Airfare - ~\$1300 Delta or points, Trip ~ \$2900

Local Contact: Don Hanberry
Home – 770-972-8510

Alternate Contacts: Charlie Arnsdorff , Gary Nizzi 404-713-0113



Library News

Vince Exley

Loest Research Library

Special Collection Books

The development of our GSS research library continues to go forward: recently added is a display of old and rare books as part of our special collections. The old books—not available for research—are displayed in an Amish glass curio, which was custom made in Pennsylvania and contributed by Francis Hutto. Among the old books are an original 1856 edition of P. A. Strobel's *The Salzburger and Their Descendants*, a 1929 edition of the first English translation of the early Jerusalem Church book records—the *Ebenezer Record Book*—and the first edition of Pearl Rahn Gnann's *Georgia Salzburger and Allied Families* (1956). Stevens' 1847 classic *History of Georgia*, a hundred year old biography of Martin Luther, given by Camille Baxter, and a hundred year old Luther Bible from Germany, given by Pamela Exley Weinelt.

The library, which is being developed with an emphasis on history and genealogical records of the colonial period, is open every Saturday afternoon from 3:00 till 5:00 p.m. and other times by appointment made with Barbara Scott, librarian: 912-660-1786,.

We are grateful for the work of our library volunteers: Barbara Scott, librarian, Debra Herrin, Ginger Kieffer, Henry and Sandy Mingledorff, and Flarleen Young.



2015 HERITAGE DAY PROGRAM

Translation of Bergmann Letters

By Dr. Russell Kleckley

Dr. Kleckley's overview of "The Bergmann Letters" offered fascinating insights into life at Ebenezer and a view of situations in the early United States after the American Revolution. As the Halle appointed minister at Ebenezer, Bergmann approached and documented life in America with the eye of an outside critic. He became aware that Ebenezer would not return to the way it was at the time of Boltzius and this made him unsure about what the future held. Dr Kleckley kept our attention by offering a peek into what Bergmann documented on various situations involving some of our families with material not found in standard history books. This new information sparks interest among the Georgia Salzburger Society and anyone interested in the story of the early American nation. Imagine cross referencing Bergmann's documentations to other historical notations and filling voids or suppositions documented before now. This will help shape a stronger picture of the happenings around Ebenezer, Savannah, and our new republic. A true time capsule has been opened. We eagerly await the complete publication of the letters and thank Dr. Kleckley for his efforts in this endeavor made possible by the triad of The Institute at Halle, Dr. Kleckley and the Georgia Salzburger Society. Also our thanks to members and others that supported this project. The next step is publishing the English translations.

Georgia Salzburger Members

*You are invited
To a reception honoring retiree
Treasurer – Virginia Spano
5 Board of Directors
Immediately following
Landing Day
Business Meeting
March 12, 2016
In The Seckinger Room,*

SALT FROM HALLE GERMANY COMES TO GEORGIA, AGAIN

An economic development partnership between companies based in Halle, Germany and Savannah, Georgia, renews salt tradition centuries after Halle salt was first introduced to Colonial Georgia.

The two companies, Salt Table LLC, based in Savannah, and Deutsches Salinekontor GmbH, based in Halle, have agreed to sell Halle salt and Salt Table seasonings products in each country. The Salt Table produces salts and seasoning blends in the United States. Halle salt is produced by the Hallore Company and distributed in Germany by Deutsches Salinekontor GmbH. The Hallore Company founded in 1497, is also based in Halle, Germany. The "boilt salz" (boiled salt) it produces comes from brine deep underground. For thousands of years the brine at this location has been boiled to produce a very pure salt.

The connection between the cities and salt goes back to the year following James Oglethorpe's founding of Savannah in 1733, when the first group of Salzburger arrived from Germany. These settlers were refugees forced to leave the state of Salzburg, Austria and surrounding area, due to their Lutheran beliefs. With help from Oglethorpe they claimed a spot along the Savannah River and founded the town of Ebenezer, Georgia. (Today Ebenezer is home to the Georgia Salzburger Society, Jerusalem Lutheran Church and the New Ebenezer Retreat Center.) The first two pastors of Ebenezer were educated at The Francke Foundation in Halle. The citizens of Ebenezer soon began trade with Halle, including silk. It is safe to say the immigrants brought with them their precious *salz*.



In August 2015, after several years of discussion a meeting between Dave Legasse of the Salt Table and Thomas Staudenmayer, of Deutsches Salinekontor resulted in an agreement of reciprocal trade. The products include a proprietary salt and spice blend developed and produced by the Salt Table in Pooler, Georgia. It combines Halle salt with other spices under the name of *Savannah Halle Grinder Blend*. In addition, pure Hallore salt is bottled by the Salt Table in the United States. These products are available in both countries.

This is the first two-way economic development collaboration to emerge since the 2012 Sister City merger between Savannah and Halle as established by Sister Cities International, a nonprofit citizen diplomacy network that creates and strengthens partnerships between communities of the world.

A singular important person and a strong proponent in the development of this "salt" relationship is Sabine Pr'schel, an ardent supporter and organizer of the Sister City initiative. "After close to ten years of efforts to bring the sister city relationship between Halle and Savannah to life, it is wonderful to see and be part of its first business collaboration. This special product does not just taste amazing, it also serves as a symbol of our sister city friendship."

The products can be purchased at Salt Table shops and online. The products are also available for wholesale in both countries. For more information visit

The book was compiled and edited by Vince Exley and the project was sponsored by Rahn descendants, Francis and Evelyn Hutto and Barbara Rahn Scott. The research was ongoing for several years, a work of the GSS Special Genealogical Research Project Committee.

Salzburgers Removed from Ga History!

Please respond asap, the survey is open until March 14. The Georgia Board of Education currently has a draft removing the word Salzburger from the standard required for Georgia Education. Removing the words also removes any school trips to educate Georgia students and teachers. The first link is a survey for your comments (1-1000 words) “The Salzburgers need to be reinstated in the SS standards due to historical achievements”. The second link is for a Crosswalk of the standards. The first column shows the standards that are being taught. The second column is the proposed standards. If you look on page 65 you will not see the Salzburgers (SS8H2b) in the proposed standards.

Only your Survey input will change this travesty, without your input we are gone from children's education. You may also email your opinion to the Social Studies director below, your representatives, etc.

Use www.georgiasalzburger.com and select the links for easier access and latest news.

Contact the following for Social Studies Content at the GaDOE.

Pamela Smith, Ed.S
Director Curriculum & Instruction
Phone: 404-463-4141
Email: PamSmith@doe.k12.ga.us

Shaun Owen
Program Coordinator
Phone: 404-651-7271
Email: sowen@doe.k12.ga.us

We need your help! Only your voices can make a difference!

CALLING ALL SALZBURGER YOUNG CHILDREN

In an effort to insure continued interest in our wonderful Salzburger heritage, a special category for membership in the Georgia Salzburger Society will soon be available. This category will be the “Junior Salzburger” (ages 0-15). The activities and programs are being designed especially for the children in teaching Salzburger history in a fun and interesting way. Dues will be \$10 annually. Parents and grandparents may choose to give lifetime memberships as birthday or holiday gifts. The more we involve the younger generations, the greater the success in preserving our heritage.



List of Needs ... per President Nizzi and Grounds/Building Committee

We are continuing to examine the current state of affairs for each committee. At the August board meeting we agreed to share our number one critical need at the Heritage Day meeting. Other items will be forth coming after proper examination. At the 2015 Heritage Day meeting we shared the issue of controlling moisture content in the Museum and requested funds to replace the HVAC system. We requested \$9000 and received \$250. To be honest, our 16-year-old system was not doing a good job and Museum items are degrading. We have many valuable historical items in the Museum entrusted by families to us for preservation, documentation and the enjoyment of all. With Board authorization in November to front the funds, our main HVAC system was replaced in mid-January. The new system to both heat and cool the Museum with moisture control cost approximately \$8000. The secondary HVAC system for the Loest library will not be changed at this time but may need a separate dehumidifier to assist that section for Approximately \$500-\$1000. So we continue to ask for contributions of approximately \$9000 donated to the building and grounds fund for this responsible need. Donations of approximately \$1400 have been received to date. Please consider a gift to help with this important need. Additionally, the septic drain field had to be replaced and cost \$1100.

IT IS THAT TIME AGAIN! ... REGULAR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE!

Annual reminders are forthcoming; however you may send a check without the form. Be sure to mark on bottom line, left side of check, what your payment is for. If you would like to get involved...call our office and your name will be given to the officers and BOD. We need your help and welcome your participation.

“Shall We Gather At The River? Yes!”

News from the Old Ebenezer Church

Jerusalem Lutheran Church was honored to host the members of The Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Savannah, Georgia in celebration of their 275th Anniversary, February 20, 2016.

Upon their arrival while the church bells were ringing, guests were greeted and served rice soup. After finding finger print in the bricks and taking pictures, members entered the church where they were given a presentation of the Salzburgers arriving to Georgia making settlement. The church building history was given and music of the era, as well as the pipe organ rendition of “A Mighty Fortress.” This was followed by a mid-day dinner served in the Social Hall prepared by the ladies of Jerusalem. All enjoyed the fellowship and tasty meal!

The afternoon was spent touring the church grounds, visiting the museum, the amphitheater, viewing the Savannah River and reminiscing about the Salzburgers making their trip for their first time to Ebenezer.

