

PRESRT STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
RINCON GA  
PERMIT NO. 11

MAILING LABEL GOES HERE

Georgia Salzburger Society  
2980 Ebenezer Road  
Georgia Highway 275  
Rincon, GA 31326



Jerusalem Lutheran Church

# The Georgia Salzburger

FALL / WINTER 2017-18

Volume 114, No. 24

## Landing Day 2018

The speaker this year is a Salzburger member, Steve Burke (left, in Redcoat Uniform, with Lee Smith). His research on the American Revolution in Georgia is extensive and the topic for his presentation will be *“Life at Ebenezer during the British Occupation of the Town.”* He will be assisted by Dess and Wilder Smith, as well as Lee Smith, all

of whom are members and reenactors for Sons of the American Revolution. They plan to describe the effects of the Revolutionary War on daily living in Ebenezer and how after-effects of the war changed this community, both economically and socially.

The Effingham County High School Junior ROTC Color Guard and Corps of Cadets will conduct a formal Retreat as part of our Opening Ceremony this year, commencing at 1145.





Founded 1925

# Georgia Salzburger Society

An Affiliate Chapter of the Georgia Historical Society

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Since Heritage Day, I was fortunate in representing GSS at three major functions: First, I attended the German-American Day celebration at Savannah Orleans Square, sponsored by the Savannah Teutonic Council: a few GSS members joined Claudia Christiansen, our Council Representative, but many others were apparently unable to attend. Please add 8 Oct 2018 to your calendar, so that you can join us next year.

Second: I attended the German Heritage Society annual banquet in Savannah; believe it or not, my first black tie event; the food and fellowship was excellent and many members of several prominent societies favorably commended GSS for its work promoting German ancestry in Georgia.

Lastly, I attended a luncheon with the Savannah Mayor's International Committee, which is responsible for promoting business and culture, which significantly ties in with our Society's support of the Teutonic Council and visiting Educators from Germany.

*Visit Ebenezer*, in cooperation with Jerusalem Church, successfully held their first annual Christkindlmarkt, which in many towns in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria, is usually ushered in with Advent and the opening of the Christmas market. It is called a "Christkind(e)l(s)markt", literally meaning "Christ child market"). Traditionally held in the town square, the market has food, drink and seasonal items from open-air stalls accompanied by traditional singing and dancing. This is another new event needed on your calendar for 2018.

Over the past year, I have been amazed at the number of events being held under the banner of German Heritage in Georgia. Quite a few of our GSS members seem to find time to attend many of these events--- With the Georgia Board of Education officially recognizing German Heritage, along with various German Heritage Associations around the State, let more of us "strut our stuff" and attend more of these events; next is Landing Day. I hope to see you there. Henry Mingledorff

## ADDRESS

2980 Ebenezer Road  
Georgia Highway 275  
Rincon GA 31326

## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday and Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.  
Telephone No.: 912-754-7001

E-mail: gaslzbrgr@aol.com  
Website: <http://visitebenezer.com>

## OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Henry Mingledorff  
VICE PRESIDENT: Claudia Christiansen  
SECRETARY: Rebecca Heidt  
TREASURER: Francis Hutto  
CURATOR: Patsy Zeigler  
ASSISTANT CURATOR: Robert Peavy  
REGISTRAR: Debra Herrin  
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Charlie Arnsdorff  
CHAPLAIN: Reverend Steve Plonk  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Gary Nizzi

## DIRECTORS

**To March 2018**  
Harold Schwanebeck  
Ruth Dostal  
Larry Zettler  
Allen Kieffer

**To March 2019**  
Rebecca Harris  
Noble Boykin  
Barbara Scott  
Sandy Gibson  
Kevin Seckinger

**To March 2020**  
Wingard Rahn  
Larry Bradham  
Brenda Dasher  
Kirk Bridgers  
Sandra Wingate

EDITOR: Scotty Scott  
ADMIN ASST: Carolyn Arnsdorff

## NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

Send news and inquiries to:  
W. E. "Scotty" Scott  
9 Oak Ridge Circle,  
Rincon, Georgia 31326  
or Email: [scotti3275@aol.com](mailto:scotti3275@aol.com)

## Meet the new Managing Editor for the GSS Newsletter Walter E. "Scotty" Scott, Ed. S.



From President Henry Mingledorff: By now you should have received the Fall Edition of the GSS Newsletter; Scotty Scott has been given full rein of the Newsletter as EDITOR, following the retirement of our former staff. Scotty brings a wealth of experience to the job, having handled other similar newsletters, and I feel that we can look forward to a bright future in this area.

From Scotty Scott: Hi, Everybody. Though I've been a member of the Salzburger Society for almost 30 years, I've lived in other countries and states, either through my Air Force and/or Teaching career, so many of you may not remember me. I previously served on the Board of Directors in the late 1990s, when Bob Griner and Vince Exley were Presidents, with Noble Boykin as Parliamentarian, and of course, Martha Zeigler as Curator.. Yes, it's been awhile. I'm a direct descendant of Anna Maria Riedelsperger and Ruprecht Eischperger through their daughter, Maria Eischperger Griner, as well as other Salzburgers, such as George Buntz, Asa Tanner, Andrew Mock, John Boykin, and John Michael Zeigler. Yes, I am certainly proud of my heritage! During my Air Force career, which spanned almost four decades, from the tail end of the Vietnam War through both Gulf Wars, I lived in or visited 45 states and 47 countries, and became enamored with the cultures I encountered, especially three in particular: German, Austrian, and Scottish. I've spent eight years of my life overseas, five at Bitburg, Germany, two at Keflavik, Iceland, and one at Manama, Bahrain, and I do miss the travel. When I initially retired from the USAF, I decided to become a History Teacher, and besides my undergraduate degree from Troy State University, I hold Masters and Education Specialist degrees from Georgia Southern University. I've also attended City Colleges of Chicago, Community College of the Air Force, University of Maryland, Air University, and Naval Postgraduate School. I am truly a student for life. I am now fully retired and glad to be back home. I have been married for almost 42 years to my wonderful wife, Maureen, and we have four children, and six grandchildren. Besides being an avid genealogist, I am also active with the Gideons, Georgia Historical Society, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Civil Air Patrol. God willing, I am really looking forward to working with the great people of this Society.

## Membership Applications for Approval

February 10, 2018

Debra Stafford Herrin

### Up-date to Life

Annette Beasley McEachin

Peter Gruber

### Life Memberships

Matthew Maxwell Black  
Austin Ashby Bradham  
Emily Camille Bradham  
Morgan Cole Edenfield  
Samuel Branch Heidt III  
Diane Barner Holder  
Richard Allen Loper  
Terry Lane Miller  
Lorie Anne Miller Phillips

Johannes Scherraus  
Matthias Seckinger  
Matthias Seckinger  
John Michael Zeigler  
Johann George Heidt  
Johannes Heinle  
Conrad Rahn  
Peter Gruber  
Peter Gruber

### Associate Life Member

Joyce Allen Heidt,  
spouse of Samuel Branch Heidt III

Johann George Heidt

### Regular Memberships

Josie Lee Herrin Adams  
Krystle Kennedy Black  
Terry Sheppard Sherrod  
Emory Lee Smith, Jr.  
Alicia Phillips Spiegel  
Billy K. Vaughn  
Sarah Love Vaughn  
Audrey Griner Wilkerson  
Richard Howard Zettler

Mathias Burgsteiner  
Johannes Scherraus  
Ruprecht Eischperger  
Moses Pengree  
Johannes Heinle  
Peter Gruber  
Peter Gruber  
Johann Casper Griner  
Mathias Zettler

### Associate Member

Dr. Michael Maxwell Black,  
spouse of Krystle Kennedy Black

Johannes Scherraus

### Young Salzburger

Bryton Wyatt Hawkins

Hans Schmidt

### Honorary Life Membership

Christine Koch

*(continued from pg 1)*

They will first raise the German National Flag, accompanied by “*Deutschland Uber Alles*” (their national anthem), followed by the raising of the American flag and playing the “*Star-Spangled Banner*.” If you’ve never seen a formal Retreat Ceremony performed by young people, it is really a treat! The Celebration will commence at noon, with a lunch of “good rice soup.” The meal is free, of course, though donations are certainly appreciated. The annual meeting will follow with elections of new officers for the GSS Board; the installation of those officers; then a reception following the meeting.

As many of our members have never had the opportunity to experience a visit to *Old Ebenezer*, after the election, installation, and reception (around 3:30 p.m.), Norman Turner will lead a caravan to the site of Old Ebenezer and its cemetery. We think that everyone will fully enjoy the unique experience of a guided tour of this historic old site. This will conclude our Landing Day celebration. —Claudia Christiansen



Wilder Smith in Georgia Militia Uniform

Dess Smith in Georgia Militia Uniform



Come visit the library and find out more about your ancestors. You can trace your family line back to the immigrant. I would be glad to work with your child on projects related to their heritage. Maybe you would be interested in details of life in Old or New Ebenezer. There are also biographies available that would be of interest. Our newest biography is, *Missionary of Moderation, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg and the Lutheran Church in English America* by Leonard R. Riforgiato. The library is open on Saturday from 3-5 pm and also by appointment. We are located on the second floor of the museum. If you would like to make an appointment please call Barbara Scott at 912-660-1786. You may also contact me by email at [brscotti1649@windstream.net](mailto:brscotti1649@windstream.net).

#### **MUSEUM AND GIFT SHOPPE NEWS**

*The GSS Museum is presently open on the Winter Schedule:  
Saturday and Sunday (except Holidays)  
3-5 PM*

- ◆ Tours—call Patsy Zeigler, at 912-655-4555 for scheduling appointments.
- ◆ We share our heritage with many tourists—please come visit us.

#### **GREAT NEWS: THE MUSEUM NOW HAS A CREDIT CARD TERMINAL!**

*Please visit our gift shoppe for:  
Books, Prints, Jewelry, Tee Shirts, Filet-Crocheted Swans, and  
Other Salzburger Related Items*

**REMEMBER THAT GSS MEMBERS GET A TEN PERCENT DISCOUNT!**

Curator: Patsy Zeigler  
Assistant Curator: Robert Peavy  
Volunteers: Lisa Repasy, Roger Stephens, Larry Zettler, Gill Zeigler, and Sandy Gibson





## Membership Applications Approved November 11, 2017

### UP-DATE TO LIFE

Stuart Alvin Bridgers  
Arlene Marie Keddie  
Henry Grady Lewis, Jr.  
Sarah Farrar Morgan  
Darwin Lederle Seckinger

Matthias Seckinger  
Matthias Seckinger  
Solomon Hieronymus Addy  
John Justus Grovenstein  
Matthias Seckinger

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Samantha Louise Dostal  
Michael Alan Fague  
Daniel Alexander Smith  
Heather Lee Ingram Whipple  
Roger Dale Zeigler

Valentine Kessler  
Johannes Scherraus  
Jorg Mengersdorff  
John Justus Grovenstein  
John Michael Zeigler

### UP-DATE TO ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Leiston Thomas Shuman, Jr.  
Spouse of Mary Jane Martin Shuman

John Justus Grovenstein

### REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Sarah Christine Rippe Brecheisen  
Julie Berthanna Brinas  
Judith Lee Giles  
Theresa Yvette Seckinger-Varnadore  
Harrold Bernard Wheeler, Jr.

Paulus Zittrauer  
Christian Zipperer  
Johann Casper Griner  
Matthias Seckinger  
Paulus Zittrauer

### FRIEND

James Walter Iler, Jr.



Claudia Christiansen with  
Christine Koch

## 2018 Nominating Committee Report

The Committee places in nomination the following persons for consideration by the Board. Each nominee has enthusiastically agreed to serve in the respective positions, if approved by the Board. Contact info for each individual will be provided upon approval:

### OFFICERS

**President**  
**Vice President**  
**Treasurer**  
**Secretary**  
**Curator**  
**Assistant Curator**  
**Registrar**  
**Parliamentarian**  
**Chaplain**

**Walter E. "Scotty" Scott**  
**Claudia Christiansen**  
**Francis Hutto**  
**Sandy Gibson**  
**Patsy Zeigler**  
**Robert Peavy**  
**Debra Herrin**  
**Charlie Arnsdorff**  
**Reverend Steve Plonk**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS (to Mar 2021)

**Harold Schwanebeck**  
**Diane Barner Holder**  
**Kara Gelderman**  
**Becky Morgan**  
**Richard Loper**

Respectfully submitted by:

**Larry Zettler**  
**Barbara Scott**  
**Sandra Wingate**

### *Snail Mailed Newsletters Final Notice*

Hi, Everyone. As we are experiencing difficulty in our Members providing us with an Email Address or request for receiving a hard copy of the Newsletter, this will be our last attempt at notifying everyone. At present, we only have 202 people identified to receive a hard copy, of which 57 or those are Libraries or other organizations. That's okay for now, as we have to have at least 200 to get our Bulk Mail Rate. Please remember that a Newsletter being mailed to an address in the 313 zip code costs a tad over .29 cents, while one being mailed outside the 313 zip code costs almost .32 cents. Just mailing this \quarter is going to cost \$360. Furthermore, if that Newsletter is returned to us, we are charged another .29 or .32 cents as the case may dictate. With only 202 hard copies, added to 550 or so emailed copies, that means that we have almost 1200 people who have probably not received an email at all in the past few years. I have a problem with that, as I personally feel that EVERYONE in our Society should receive one! Subsequently, for me to ensure that everyone receives a newsletter this quarter, I will need to mail (i.e. "snail mail") about 1275 newsletters to physical addresses, some of which may no longer be valid. Remember that we are charged again for returned mail. The cost for sending out 1275 newsletters is basically going to cost the Society \$490.25 per quarter, or almost \$2,000 per year, and quite frankly, we can't afford that. Please find it in your heart to simply provide us with an email address of some sort, so that we can send you an Electronic Newsletter, which not only costs us anything, but your Newsletter will be in color as well! You can email me at [scotti3275@aol.com](mailto:scotti3275@aol.com) or mail to Newsletter Editor, 2980 Ebenezer Road, Rincon GA 31326. Additionally, if everyone would like to contribute an extra \$5-10, strictly for Newsletter use, that would be great. We're really trying to get snail mails down to a more manageable level, perhaps around 400, and I think that all would agree that a Library or Educational Institution should only receive electronic versions. We are in the 21st Century now, and as much as I sometimes hate it, we are certainly now technologically oriented. Thank you for your attention to this matter. - Scotty Scott







A mountain ridge-and-valley in the Salzburg region near Rauris, Austria. The granite used for the Stone of Reconciliation (Salzburger monument) in Savannah was mined from here.

### **Donations Needed**

The Society is in need of a Color Copier to be used for the Quarterly Newsletter, Periodical Fliers, and other Administrative functions. We've been in contact with ABR Digital Office Solutions, and can get a new copier for \$61 per month, or buy it outright for \$3800, as follows:

*SAVIN C2004ex*  
*20 black and white and color pages per minute*  
*25% - 200% enlargement & reduction*  
*3 paper sources (1,100 sheet capacity)*  
*Unlimited Duplexing*  
*Electronic Sorting/Collating*  
*Network Printing*  
*Print from Mobile Devices*  
*Color Scanning to Folder, HDD & Email*  
*Scan to/Print from USB*

The drawback we're facing is that due to repairs on the air-conditioning and sundry items on the grounds, we have a budget shortfall, which makes it problematic for us to enter into a five-year lease. If anyone would like to make a donation of any denomination, please send a check or money order, made out to the GSS General Fund, and mail to the GSS Treasurer, 2980 Ebenezer Rd, Rincon, GA 31326. God bless each and every one of you, and I wish you a most fabulous New Year.

## **Note from the Registrar**

*Debra Stafford Herrin*

February has been a busy and exciting month. We approved 23 memberships at the February board meeting, after which I was handed more applications. Super Museum Sunday was also well attended, with one applicant paying for membership, while several others expressed interest in joining.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of February, we gathered to hear Christine Koch share what she had discovered during her research of the Salzburgers. On behalf of the Society and the Board, I took joy in presenting Christine with a GSS Honorary Life Membership. During the ensuing reception, I received three more membership applications. I am always willing to assist anyone wanting to join the Society. Please feel free to contact me at (912)-657-5675 or by email at [gssdebraherrin@gmail.com](mailto:gssdebraherrin@gmail.com).

### **NEW EBENEZER RETREAT CENTER**

Are you interested in visiting Ebenezer and staying overnight for our various activities and festivals? New Ebenezer Retreat Center has accommodations and meals available for you! Just steps away you can visit the museum and research library on Saturday and/or Sunday afternoon; attend services at historic Jerusalem Church at 11:00 a.m. Sunday; attend the Landing Day Meeting and Celebration festivities, and visit with other Salzburger descendants gathered for that particular activity.

Overnight lodging is available in private rooms, with private baths. Six meals are provided beginning with dinner on Saturday. The cost for the two night visit is \$148 per person.

**[www.newebenezer.org](http://www.newebenezer.org)**  
**or email**  
**[retreat@newebenezer.org](mailto:retreat@newebenezer.org) (912) 754-**

### **NEWSLETTER DELIVERY INFORMATION**

We'd prefer to email out Quarterly Newsletters to members of the Georgia Salzburger Society, but also place it where it's available at <http://visitebenezer.com>. All that you need do is click on "Newsletter". As we're trying to cut costs for postage, we'd prefer to send out postal-mailed newsletters only as necessary, for reason such as you don't own a computer or printer, etc.

Please contact Scotty Scott at [scotti3275@aol.com](mailto:scotti3275@aol.com), and let him know that you'd like to correct or update your email address, and/or to receive a copy of the newsletter by "snail" mail. Additionally, please let Debra Herrin know immediately when a member has passed away.

## Speaker: Christine Marie Koch

The Georgia Salzburger Society was honored to welcome Christine Koch of Paderborn University in Halle (Saale), Germany as the Keynote Speaker at Jerusalem Lutheran Church on 17 Feb 2018 at 2:00 p.m. Having received her teaching degree in History and English in the United States, Christine is currently a Doctoral Candidate in American Studies. She is from Salzkotten, a small town near the University. The name “*Salzkotten*” is derived from German language, meaning “*salt and small village or assembly of houses*”. There is a saline, as



well as two water mills in Salzkotten, along with many houses from the Middle Ages within the town limits. Christine notes that it is “*just funny that this town and the city where I currently live in Halle; both have to do with salt and here I am working on the Salzburgers!*”

Christine spends much of her time studying in the archives of the Francke Foundation in Halle, preparing her Ph. D. Dissertation, which mainly consists of a longitudinal study on what became of the Georgia Salzburgers after the American Revolution, with special regard to what it means to be a Georgia Salzburger descendant, and their continued transatlantic connections.

Christine’s presentation will reflect on the current state of her research, to include insights from archival documents concerning Halle and Georgia, as well as a brief discussion on her most recent trip to Salzburg, Austria.



Pilgrimage: Salzburgers forced to leave Austria making their way across Germany to Prussia, then on to England and the New World.



The London Merchant 1735 passing The Needles at the Isle of Wight in the English Channel.—on the voyage of the Third Salzburger Transport; destination Ebenezer, Georgia. Landed in Savannah on February 17, 1736.