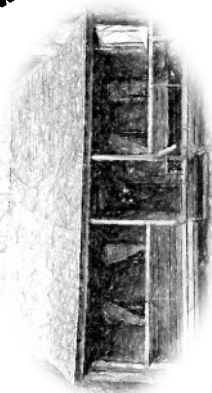


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Georgia Salzburger Society
2980 Ebenezer Road
Georgia Highway 275
Rincon, GA 31326



Here Today, Gone Tomorrow



Without Your Help and Donations

The Georgia Salzburger Society

Vol. 30, No. 3

Fall 2019



Jerusalem Lutheran Church 250th Anniversary

Jerusalem Lutheran Church congregation and guests celebrated the 250th Anniversary of the church building on Sunday, October 27,

2019. Our guest pastor was ELCA Bishop, Kevin Strickland.



Following the worship service the congregation and guests had a delicious German lunch catered by Nick Mueller. Rob Taylor entertained the crowd with German Music on the accordion. What an enjoyable and wonderful day to honor and remember our Salzburger ancestors.



The congregation received communion using the chalice that was brought to Ebenezer by Salzburgers. ~ Patsy Zeigler





Founded in 1925

Georgia Salzburger Society

An Affiliate Chapter of the Georgia Historical Society

ADDRESS

2980 Ebenezer Road
Georgia Highway 275
Rincon, GA 31326

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday and Friday
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Phone: 912-754-7001

Email: gaslzbrgr@aol.com

Website: <http://visitebenezer.com>

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Claudia Christiansen
VICE PRESIDENT: Noble Boykin
SECRETARY:
TREASURER: Francis Hutto
CURATOR: Patsy Zeigler
ASSISTANT CURATOR: Robert Peavy
REGISTRAR: Debra Herrin
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR: Sandra Wingate
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Charlie Arnsdorff
CHAPLAIN: Pastor Mark Cerniglia
PAST PRES: Henry Mingledorff
ADMIN ASSISTANT: Jennifer Nash

DIRECTORS

To March 2020

Larry Bradham; Kirk Bridgers
Brenda Dasher
Paulette Gebhardt
Sandra Wingate

To March 2021

Diane Holder; Anne Miller
Becky Morgan
Harold Schwanebeck

To March 2022

Mary Sue Kessler; Lisa Repasy
Leiston Shuman, Jr.
Joshua Zeigler

Edited by Kristin Everson
Published by Anne Miller

Newsletter

Published Quarterly

Send news and inquiries to:
GSS Office

2980 Ebenezer Road
Georgia Highway 275
Rincon, GA 31326

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President's Message 2020

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2020; A NEW DECADE OF SALZBURGER HISTORY

I will begin by expressing my gratitude to the members of the Georgia Salzburger Society for trusting me to lead and strive to preserve the goals and traditions of the organization. I also appreciate the encouragement and kind words supporting my efforts during the past year. The Landing Day meeting each year provides for a new beginning and renewal of dedicated volunteers. If you are interested in serving as an officer or member of the GSS Board, please contact the nominating committee (912-754-7001) and attend the Landing Day business meeting.

We cannot take our Heritage for granted. Each one of us can do something to help maintain some aspect of the responsibilities we have to preserve the future of GSS and the historic site of Ebenezer.

LOOKING TOWARD 2020, WE NEED TO ASK:

What Will We Keep and What Will Be Thrown Away?

Downsizing has become a popular buzz word, but do you want to downsize your heritage or Salzburger traditions?

I realize that the question sounds harsh and maybe a bit off-putting. However, the question is Important because GSS has a few faithful volunteers doing all you see mentioned here in the newsletters and posted on Facebook. Due to time and personal obligations more and more volunteers are disappearing from the scene at Ebenezer. No one wants to throw away their heritage, but without new volunteers, more things are being left undone. Over time everything needs maintenance and care. Please encourage membership and participation.

Your membership is vital to the operation of the Georgia Salzburger Society. It is only through your financial support of fees and donations that the society, museum and research library, can continue. Please give generously to carry on the mission of the Georgia Salzburger Society.

2020 RENEWAL NOTICE

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Georgia Salzburger Society 2020 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$25.00 \$ _____

**Change from Annual Membership to LIFE \$250.00 \$ _____

Georgia Salzburger Society Contributions - **Optional**

General Fund \$ _____

Endowment Fund \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Make checks payable to Georgia Salzburger Society.

Please send your check along with this invoice to:

Georgia Salzburger Society

Membership Renewal

P. O. Box 1629

Rincon, GA 31326-1629

Thank you for your support of the Georgia Salzburger Society!

For further information call the office at 912-754-7001.

Fashions With a Past

The Colonial Dames XVII Century Richard Warren GA26 Chapter of Waynesboro, Ga. held their Colonial Tea & Vintage Clothing Review on Sept. 28th at the Historic Ice Plant in Waynesboro. Patsy Zeigler, Curator of the GSS Museum, gave a presentation on "Fashions With a Past".



GSS Memberships Approved August 10, 2019

Up-grade to Life

Mary Allison Shuman Bledsoe
Dylan Edward Mulligan
Lieston Thomas Shuman, III

Immigrant Ancestor

John Adam Treutlen
Martin Dasher
Martin Schumann

Life Membership

Amanda Lorain Driskell
Peyton June Rausch
(She was born June 10, 2019, which makes her our youngest member at this time.)
Meredith Jean Rahn Thomas

John Justus Grovenstein
Andreas Lorenz Arnsdorff
Conrad Rahn

Associate Life Membership

Linda Sammis Allen
Spouse of Jeffrey Baker Allen, Jr

Christian Oechslein

Regular Membership

Kirk Anthony Clanton
Andrea Clanton Deloach
Blake Garrett Kessler
Bryan Christopher Parrish
Marie Hinely Sabiston
Carl Anthony Sherrouse

Martin Schumann
Martin Schumann
Balthasar Reiser
Ruprecht Eischberger
Johannes Heinle
Johann Scheraus

Friend

Anna Habersham Wright

Submitted by *Debra Stafford Herrin, Registrar*

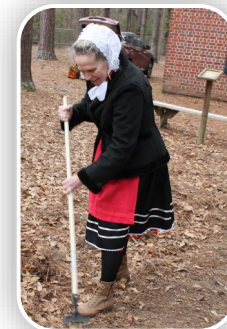


Allen "Butch" Webb Kieffer, Sr. of Springfield, GA July 5, 1945—May 30, 2019
Alice Rhoda Gnann Ferrell of Springfield, GA October 8, 1922— August 8, 2019
Linwood L. "Woody" Seckinger of Springfield, GA May 6, 1935 - January 24, 2020
Cynthia Virginia Shearouse Phillips of Pooler, GA October 31, 1936 – October 1, 2019
Linda Carol Yarbrough of Millen, GA June 24, 1958 – October 18, 2019
Jacqueline "Jackie" Holland Willis September 15, 1923 – January 2, 2020

What Can You Do To Help Preserve Your Heritage?



The simple answer is to show up, speak up, and stay informed with what needs to be done. Call the office (912-754-7001) if you have any questions about helping. Here are a few needs.



- Help needed on the grounds of Ebenezer.
- Sweep leaves and straw off of roofs.
- Cut weeds and grass. Trim shrubs.
- Install new signs of self-guided tour of Ebenezer.
- Check the water pipes during freezing weather.
- Clean, dust, sweep, change light bulbs.
- Help fold the newsletters for mailing.

Your donations help with maintenance and care of buildings and grounds. You may specify which project you want to receive your contribution. ~ CSC

Salzburger Accomplishments

Please look for other accomplishments of the past decade throughout this edition of the newsletter.

A big thank you goes to all who helped make all these events and activities a wonderful celebration of Salzburger Heritage. Without their generous contributions of time, energy and funds, none of these would have been so successful. And this is the time to thank everyone near and far, for their enthusiasm and respect for these untiring efforts and generous financial support. Remember the **3 S's....Show up, Speak up, and Stay informed** with GSS activities as we strive to continue the preservation and expansion of the Salzburger footprint in American History! ~ CSC

Landing Day

March 14, 2020

Annual Celebration beginning at 11:30 AM

Luncheon, Election, and Program: "Historic Salzburger Cemeteries"

Special tour of historic Bethany Cemetery

led by Norman Turner

Decade of Salzburger History

As the new year begins, this is our opportunity to look at the past decade of the Salzburger story. During the past decade, GSS has made strides toward remaining visible and relevant in Georgia History! Do you remember when the State was planning to remove the Salzburger settlement and contributions from the GA history textbook curriculum?



GSS has expanded the website, added Facebook and contributes more to community news media. The Teutonic Council was organized to bring more focus on the cultural, economic, and educational contributions of citizens of German descent. GSS has maintained connections with other museums and heritage groups connected to Salzburger history.



Efforts have been made to preserve and respect the old cemeteries in the area where Salzburger ancestors were buried, including the re-burial of the Denzler family from White Bluff to Laurel Grove in Chatham County.

The old traditional crafts and skills of early Salzburger settlers remain a focus on Heritage Day. The heritage-focused activity programs have expanded to include Super Museum Sunday, Landing Day Luncheon and guided cemetery tours, including re-establishment of connections with the original Jewish community who befriended the first transport of Salzburger settlers arriving in Savannah.



Heritage Day weekend expanded to include cultural entertainment and evening meal on Sunday before Labor Day, the German American Day festival was started in Savannah and a Christkindle Market celebration was held at Ebenezer.

The old Salzburger House kitchen was stabilized for the Heritage Day festival and other repair needs on the old house are beginning to move forward. ~ CSC

GSS Memberships Approved November 9, 2019

Upgrade to Life Membership

Luther Dasher
Reginald Griner
Vicki Lyle Dorrough Harmon
Katherine Bryan Kaminer
Lewis Ayer Smith III
Benjamin Philip Martin
Clayton Hamilton Ramsey

Upgrade to Life-Associate Membership

Ann N. Nizzi

Life Membership

Judith Ernst Cleveland
Michael Bruce Dickerson
Charlie Jacob Heidt
Deborah Lynn Heidt
Currie Mell Mingledorff II
Nicholas Gregory Newkirk
Hannah Rose Rausch

Associate Membership

Henry Stevenson Jones, Jr

Regular Membership

Anna Marie Elizabeth Bragg
Emily Rebekah Bragg
Erika Blackburn Bragg
Benjamin Lloyd Crosby
Eddie Wayne Deloach
Jessica Lin Greene
Toni Elaine Saddler-French
Carolyn Evans Jones
Linda Blackburn Jones
Rebecca Leitner Rahn Malcom

Friend

Charlotte M. Crabtree
William Reid Dalton III
S. Leard Huggins

Pending

Donald Sibley Durant (Life Membership)
Donald Sibley Durant, Jr (Regular Membership)
Gill Henry Durant (Regular Membership)
Seth Joseph Durant (Regular Membership)

Immigrant Ancestor

Martin Dasher
Johann Casper Greiner
John Michael Heinsman
Jorg Mengersdorff
Peter Gruber
John Adam Treutlen
Peter Gruber

Wife of Gary Nizzi

Joseph Ernst
Peter Gruber
John George Haid
John George Haid
Jorg Mengersdorff
Nicholaus Helmle
Andreas Lorenz Arnsdorff

Husband of Linda Blackburn Jones

Matthias Seckinger
Matthias Seckinger
Matthias Seckinger
Paulus Zieterauer
Peter Gruber
Johann Schmidt
Conrad Rahn
John Michael Zeigler
Johann Schmidt
Conrad Rahn

Nicholaus Helmle
Nicholaus Helmle
Nicholaus Helmle
Nicholaus Helmle

Submitted by *Debra Stafford Herrin, Registrar*

Atlanta Chapter Happenings

Greater Atlanta Chapter fall 2019

The Greater Atlanta Chapter of The Georgia Salzburger Society met on Sunday, September 29, 2019 for its bi-annual membership meeting. Members enjoyed the presentation, “**The Influence of the Salzburgers on Early Colonial Methodism**”, from Richard Manly “Bo” Adams, Jr representing Pitts Theological Library. Traditional Black Forest Cake was served along with other snacks. Plans are being made for the February membership meeting and dinner which is always a hit with members.

The Nominating Committee will present a slate of Officers and Directors at the January Board Meeting for approval to present at the February membership meeting for vote.

President Candace Rausch discussed the proposed 2021 Salzburger Heritage Tour. She reported approximately 30 people have shown interest in the trip which will be a balance of heritage and tourist sites. Trip will be in early June 2021. Candace plans to announce further details at the February membership



GSS has an Amazon account and It has generated hundreds already towards the society. **AmazonSmile** is a way for Georgia Salzburger Society members and friends to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop with Amazon.

Start at smile.amazon.com. You will find the same Amazon you know and love, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice.

Signing up is easy!

Here's how to shop AmazonSmile:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com.
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials.
3. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your choice.
4. Select your charity.
5. Start shopping!
6. Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.



Super Museum Sunday

Date: Sunday, February 9, 2020

Time: Ebenezer— 1:00 - 4:00

Most museums – 12:00 - 4:00

About Super Museum Sunday

Super Museum Sunday is an annual part of the state wide Georgia History Month Celebration. On-the-once a year opportunity, participating museums open their doors free to all visitors. Even



though the GSS museum is free every day, the Georgia Salzburger Museum has been participating for several years. It is good publicity and encourages people to continue visiting Ebenezer to see what is new. We have remained visible and an important site for Georgia History and Genealogy research.

One Day Only, Unique Exhibit: Antique and Vintage Aprons

The museum will again feature a One Day Only, unique exhibit. The special interest exhibit this year will be “Antique and Vintage Aprons.” Visitors will



view various aprons on loan and displayed in the old parsonage building. Thank you to all who participate and volunteer to help with

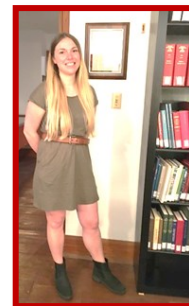


Super Museum Sunday. Thanks to those who lend their special aprons. Thanks to those who volunteer to help with



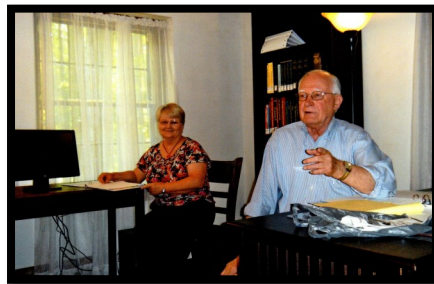
exhibits and tours. **See:** visitebenezer.com or Face-

book: Visit Ebenezer for updates or further details.



Fabia Weisser, a history student from the University of Dresden in Germany visited the Loest Library on November 23, 2019 to research material for her Bachelor's thesis. She plans to focus on the interactions between the Salzburgers and the Native Americans at Ebenezer. She is currently studying a semester at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She has agreed to share her research with us once it is complete.

History of Loest Research Library



• On February 9, 2013, Vince Exley presented to the Board of Directors of the Georgia Salzburger Society an action to establish a research library. It would be financed with Loest Estate funds and named The Loest Research Library in memory of Alice Loest. The emphasis would be on genealogical research with primary resources. The action was approved.

- On March 6, 2013 the first planning meeting was held with Vince Exley, Sheryl Exley and Barbara Scott present. Plans were made to purchase bookcases, table and chairs, desk, computer desk, lamps, a computer and printer. Sheryl, with an MA in Library Science and Information Services, served as advisor.
- On March 9, 2013, Landing Day, we invited everyone to view the new library space on the second floor of the museum. We also displayed some of the books that would soon be available for research.
- April 27, 2013 a Genealogy Workshop was presented by Vince Exley. In the afternoon we introduced the participants to the research library. The first volunteers were Vince Exley, Debra Herrin, Libby Heidt, Henry and Sandy Mingledorff, Barbara Scott and Flarleen Young. A schedule was set up for the library to be open beginning in July 2013 on Saturday from 3-5PM and by appointment.
- September 2, 2013 was the dedication of The Loest Research Library. The ribbon was cut by Vince Exley, Chairman of The Loest Research Library Committee and The Special Genealogical Research Project Committee, and by the GSS President, Keith Zeigler.
- In May of 2013 a large print of The Franke Foundation's Library was given to our library as a gift from The Franke Foundation.
- January of 2014 the plaster walls of the library were repaired and painted.
- In November 2015 a beautiful Amish-built glass curio cabinet was added to the library to house our special collections of old and rare books.
- In March 2016 a door bell was added so that researchers could access the library when museum was closed. Barbara Scott became Chairman of the library committee.
- In April 2016 The Family Bible Project was completed by Debra Herrin and Flarleen Young and added to the library. A book cart, a dehumidifier and a wall plaque were given in honor of Vince Exley in November 2016.
- In November 2017 the storage closet shelves were widened and a new storage closet was added in the old bathroom area.
- In February 2019 the library acquired a box of materials from Past President, Jack Gnann and books belonging to Pearl Rahn Gnann. Both were donated by the families.
- In May 2019 a water leak in the attic required a ceiling replacement. Bead board was used in place of plaster. *(Continued on page 7)*

A Hidden Treasure



Many travelers from all over the world stop by our GSS Museum and remark, "This is a hidden treasure." We have welcomed many visitors from Austria, Australia, Germany and many American states.

An ambassador and his family from Austria and Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal and his family were among those guests. Ebenezer Alive students use our

facilities to learn about Georgia History and the Salzburgers.

Super Museum Sunday has become a popular day with displays of quilts, fashions with a past, and this year we are featuring vintage aprons.

In Dec. 2017 we hosted our 1st Chriskindlesmarkt at Ebenezer and set up a booth to sell items.



The interior of the museum has had a new coat of paint, a new air conditioner with a dehumidifier costing approximately \$11,000 was installed, shelving added and plants planted by the front door.

Yes, we do have a hidden treasure being discovered by many! Come visit us. We continue to sell items in our gift shoppe including family ancestor books, Ebenezer afghan, jewelry, historical pamphlets, and children's books.

During 2019, the museum had approximately 1,400 visitors plus the many visitors during Salzburger Heritage Day.

Thanks to the volunteer staff who faithfully attend the museum and are always willing to help in any way: Robert Peavy, Asst. Curator, Sandy Gibson, Becky Morgan, Lisa Repasy, Gill Zeigler, Larry & Paulette Zettler. ~ Patsy Zeigler

(Continued from page 6)

In order to expand the knowledge of the volunteers and to increase enthusiasm we went on a few field trips:

- August 2015 - Purrysburg
- April 2017 - Crumley Archives Salzburger Collection
- November 2018 - Old Zion Cemetery
- March 2019 - Old Ebenezer Site

The holdings of the library presently number 305 books and genealogical papers. We have visitors come from far and wide. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers: Erica Bragg, Debra Herrin, Henry and Sandy Mingledorff, Bunny Roberts and Flarleen Young for continuing to support this unique library. Also, thanks to our many very generous donors that make this library possible.

~ Barbara Scott, Librarian Loest Research Library