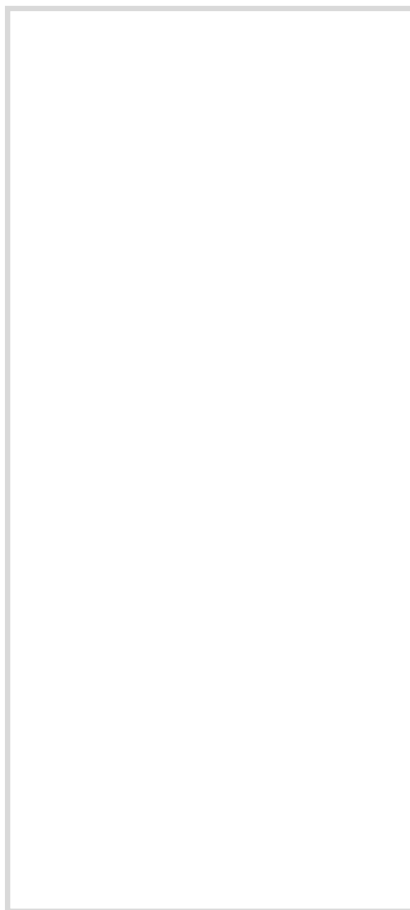


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Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
Without Your Help and Donations



The Georgia Salzburger Society

Vol. 31, No. 2/3

Spring /Summer 2020

Landing Day 2020

The Salzburgers celebrated Landing Day on March 14, 2020. The Salzburgers were exiled from their homeland in present-day Austria because of their Protestant be-



liefs. King George II of England had sympathy for their plight and allowed them to settle in the new colony of Georgia. There were 37 families that arrived in America on March 12, 1734. They were greeted by General James Oglethorpe



and Jewish settlers that served them a hearty meal of chicken



soup. This year our celebration was held in the Parsonage. There were approximately 35 attendees. We continued the tradition of serving chicken soup, breads, and an array of delicious sweets. The Georgia Salzburger Society meeting was held in Jerusalem Church and presided over by President Claudia Christiansen. The Nominating Committee presented the following for nominees: for Secre-

tary, Linda Jones, Board of Directors 2021: Emery Fennell, 2023: Larry Bradham, Dan Wilson, Erika Bragg, Lena Ruth



Nizzi, and Linda Brannen. They were sworn in by Reverend Don Hanberry. After the meeting, there was a reception to introduce the new officers and Board members, and then we went to the site of the Bethany settlement



for a tour led by Norman Turner. ~ Diane Holder



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: Linda B. Jones
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 2021
Diane Holder Emery Fennell
Becky Morgan Anne Miller
Harold Schwanebeck

To March 2022
Mary Sue Kessler Lisa Repasy
Leiston Shuman, Jr.
Joshua Zeigler Marty Edwards

To March 2023
Larry Bradham Dan Wilson, III
Erika Bragg Lena Ruth Nizzi
Linda Brannen

Edited by Anna Bragg
Published by Anne Miller

Newsletter
Published Quarterly
Send news and inquiries to:
GSS Office
2980 Ebenezer Road
Georgia Highway 275
Rincon, GA 31326
Email: gaslzbrgr@aol.com



President's Message

The north end of Tybee Island was the first American soil sighted by some of our Salzburger ancestors. Von Reck's journal gives a vivid account of the end of his voyage bringing Salzburgers to live at Ebenezer. The *Detailed Reports* also include interesting accounts of the various transports and voyages. If you have not yet read any of the volumes of *Detailed Reports*, you are missing out on a treasure trove of information. What better time to read more about the lives of our ancestors at Ebenezer? While reading the *Detailed Reports*, you will also encounter information and accounts of the tragedies our ancestors experienced due to diseases, epidemics, and other unexpected setbacks, perhaps similar to those currently taking place in many places throughout the world. By reading these yearly reports recorded about the life and times at Ebenezer, we can learn from the past and maybe find some helpful information to make us more mindful, more successful, and manage better in the future. The Landing Day celebration in March was well-attended though it took place during a time of uncertainty surrounding Covid-19. More Landing Day details plus a few photos are included in this newsletter.

We have not met with success concerning the contractor needed to do the repairs on the Salzburger House at Ebenezer. We are currently seeking estimates from the few people who are qualified and interested in contracting to do the type of work needed for this period structure. If you know a contractor who is interested and experienced in doing repairs on historic structures, please send the contact information to the GSS office. We need your help with this vital improvement project.

The new board members and faithful volunteers are eager to help plan for the Heritage Day celebration and have had two planning meetings since March. It is important for GSS to remain visible and vital at this time as well as mindful of the modifications and updated sanitation precautions needed for the festival portion of the GSS Heritage Celebration. More details will follow as time grows closer to September. Thank you to all who have updated their memberships, paid the yearly fees, upgraded to life memberships, or made donations. It is encouraging to receive donations of varying amounts. As you are aware, expenses have increased over time, so these funds are vital to maintaining the historic site and are much appreciated. Did you know that Ebenezer receives no annual funds from outside sources such as federal, state, or local government? (Continue on page 11)

2

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.

(Continued from page 2) Volunteers are always welcome at Ebenezer. If you have ideas or would like to set up a display for Heritage Day, please contact the GSS office. You may have a collection of family photos, unique artifacts, traditional games, tools, or recipes to exhibit or demonstrate. There are many other possibilities. Please contact the office at (912)754-7001 if you would like to participate. ~ Claudia Christiansen

Coming Soon!

The family of Dan Wilson, Jr. is donating estate funds toward construction of a much needed dining pavilion on the grounds at Ebenezer. More news later as plans progress. A note of appreciation to new board member Dan Wilson, III for his thoughtfulness and generosity as he continues to oversee the pavilion project.



Example of a pavilion



CSS Memberships Approved May 16, 2020

Upgrade to Life

Robert Ernest Usher

Matthias Seckinger

Life

Hardy William Bryan, III
Gloria Williams Harrell
Caroline Grace Herndon
Dean Hugh Stephens
Sarah Ellen Elza Stephens
Ellen Ruth Timmons
Palmer John Walde

John Adam Treutlen
Conrad Rahn
Peter Gruber
Martin Dasher
Martin Dasher
Peter Gruber
Peter Gruber

Regular

Keith Ryan Dasher
William Joseph Hagin
Brandon Edward Mills
Heather Nicole Mills
Sandra Turner Mills
Sonja Elizabeth Mills
Lisa Suzanne Arnsdorff Moore
Kenneth Wolfe Trobaugh
Janet Wilson

Martin Dasher
Jacob Gnnann
Martin Dasher
Martin Dasher
Martin Dasher
Martin Dasher
Andreas Lorenz Arnsdorff
Paulus Schweighoffer
John Michael Zeigler

Friend

Beth B. Mercier
Fred D Mercier
Rose Marie Quattlebaum

~ Debra Stafford Herrin, Registrar

Elizabeth Morgan Derst (5 Jul 1922 – 16 Apr 2020)

Walter David Gnnann, Sr. (19 Dec 1935 – 12 Feb 2020)

Dr. Erling Grovenstein (12 Nov 1924 – 28 Oct 2019)

Faye Watts Lancaster (18 Mar 1929– 03 Mar 2020)

William Robert Morgan (26 Aug 1945 – 11 Jan 2020)

Linwood L. Seckinger (06 May 1935 – 24 Jan 2020)

Manasse Henry Tuten, Jr. (9 Jul 1930 – 13 Jul 2019)

Jacqueline Holland Willis (15 Sep 1923 – 02 Jan 2020)

10



The Jacob Gnnann Dilemma

When a Georgia Salzburger descendant hears the name Jacob Gnnann, the immediate question that comes to mind is "Which one?" There are numerous men in Effingham's colonial period named Jacob Gnnann. The confusion surrounding some of these Jacobs can be clarified using primary documents.

Jacob Gnnann, who arrived on the Third Swabian Transport, was married to Maria Margaretha (Arnsdorff) Deppe on January 23, 1759. Rev. Boltzius makes references to him in the *Detailed Reports*, so we know of Jacob's arrival and his marriage. The *Ebenezer Record Book* states the birthdates of his children as: Johannes (John), April 23, 1760; Jonathan, September 30, 1762; David, September 28, 1764; Jacob, September 21, 1766; and Dorothea, March 23, 1769. The *Ebenezer Record Book* also tells us that this Jacob Gnnann died October 13, 1773 and was buried the next day.

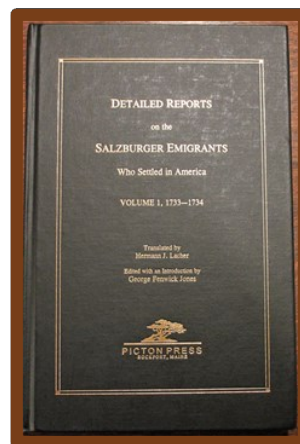
Jacob Gnnann, the son of Johann George and Anna (Gress) Gnnann, was born December 25, 1747 and baptized later in the day according to his baptism record at Evangelische Kirche Langenau (OA. Ulm). He arrived in Georgia as a young boy in 1751. He married Hanna Metzger on April 6, 1773 according to the *Ebenezer Record Book* and their marriage license on file in our county. Jacob and Hanna (Metzger) Gnnann had two daughters, Elisabeth and Margaret. We find their births listed in the *Ebenezer Record Book* as December 19, 1773 and November 26, 1778, respectively. The *Germans of Colonial Georgia* index shows this Jacob died in 1814.

A great number of faithful men and women have preceded us; therefore, we are compassed about by a great crowd of witnesses. In our genealogical research, I believe those witnesses are primary sources. We must use them to set our records straight. ~ Erika Bragg

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

The Detailed Reports, Volume 8

The *Detailed Reports*, Volume 8 from 1741 contains information about medications used in New Ebenezer. What a great resource to use when researching for this year's poster contest! Other topics covered are the types of crops grown and the cowpen at Old Ebenezer. Also included in this volume are accounts from the lives of the following families: Arnsdorff, Dasher, Gruber, Heidt, Kieffer, Reiser, Schneider, Schweighoffer, Zettler, and Zittrouer. Volume 8 is available to purchase at the GSS Museum Gift Shoppe for \$42.80. GSS members will receive a 10% discount. 3



LOEST RESEARCH LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

If you have never discovered the gem in our library by Norman V. Turner titled, "The Salzburger Settlement of New Ebenezer Town Lot Assignments", you need to take a look. It contains extremely valuable information regarding New Ebenezer. Within its 30 pages is information that I keep reaching for again and again.

It includes:

- A plat of New Ebenezer- May 30, 1821 by Lara Powers.
- Measurements of New Ebenezer's public squares, individual lots, streets, cemetery, and garden lots.
- Map including Ebenezer, the cemetery, garden lots, and Ebenezer Commons surveyed by Clem Powers on September 23, 1818.
- Town lot assignments.
- List of occupations of those who lived in and around Ebenezer from 1734 to 1800.
- Explanations of 23 occupations that existed in the 1700s.
- Twenty-two German names and their Anglicizations.

~ Barbara Scott

GSS Museum And Gift Shoppe News

- ♦ For scheduling appointments call **Patsy Zeigler, 912-655-4555**. We share our heritage with many tourists. Please give us a call.
- ♦ Thank you to Janie Belcher for donating the beautiful cross-stitched picture of Jerusalem Lutheran Church.
- ♦ The museum has a new dehumidifier upstairs in the old kitchen which is now used as a book storage room. A special thank you to Eric and Erika Bragg for purchasing and installing the machine.
- ♦ With Labor Day coming soon, we are beginning to make plans for the Market Platz. We would appreciate donations for the Market Platz at the Salzburger Heritage Celebration. Please help us by donating homemade jams, pickles, baked goods, bread, handmade articles, garden plants, vegetables, or fruit.
- ♦ Please contact us if you are planning to bring items.

All proceeds go to the Museum Operating Fund.

Patsy Zeigler, Curator—912-655-4555

Robert Peavy, Assistant Curator



The Salzburger Heritage Research Committee

In May, our GSS Board of Directors voted to reinstate a committee devoted to research. The Salzburger Heritage Research Committee was formed in March, 2020 and is comprised of researchers dedicated to using primary documents in their research. Committee members are **Anna Bragg, Erika Bragg, Kristin Everson, Debra Herrin, Annette McEachin, Robert Peavy, and Sandra Wingate**.

Salzburger Heritage Research Committee members will research:

- Genealogy of Georgia Salzburgers and allied families.
- Towns, districts, regions, or states from which Salzburgers and allied families emigrated.
- Colonial settlements to which Salzburger and allied families originally immigrated before moving to Effingham.
- German culture and traditions in Georgia.
- Illnesses, epidemics, or pandemics that affected Salzburger settlements.
- Industry.
- Agriculture and crops.
- Churches planted.
- Land grants and/or transfers through purchase or inheritance.
- Navionics, the waterways of Effingham.
- Cemeteries and burial sites related to Georgia Salzburgers and their descendants.
- Interviews for family history .

The Committee's research will focus on the above-mentioned statements of purpose; however, the members are not limited to researching only in these areas. Any GSS member interested in doing research using primary sources may join our new Salzburger Heritage Research Committee. If you have a special research request, please contact a committee member. ~ Erika Bragg



GSS NEEDS YOUR HELP. The office computer is over ten years old and is still operating with **Windows 7 Professional**. The computer is slow and cannot do all the functions that the office needs to do in order to keep GSS updated. The GSS office needs a new computer, but recently had to replace the copier that cost approximately \$3600. The GSS really needs your donations for the purchase of a new computer and to help pay off the new copier. Any donations will be appreciated. Please put on the subject line, "computer" so the office will know your donation is to going to help pay for a new computer and pay off the copier. Thank you, GSS Office Committee



Atlanta Chapter Happenings

The Board held its first virtual meeting via Zoom on April 19, 2020.

Jim Martin was welcomed as a new member.

Meeting highlights include discussion of the following:

- Possible speakers for future meetings. Kristin has maintained a spreadsheet of past speakers which is considered a valuable planning tool.
- Importance of pursuing avenues and opportunities to have Salzburger story in film.
- Proposed 2021 Heritage Tour
- Increasing membership
- Dan Wilson Memorial Fund

Officers and Directors Recently Installed:

- New slate of officers and directors were recently installed during the February membership meeting of the Atlanta Chapter of the Georgia Salzburger Society.
- Below is a list of the 2020-2022 Board.

Slate of Officers for 2020-2022

President - Pastor Kirk Bridgers
Vice President - Candace Rausch
Treasurer – Sandy Hanberry
Secretary - Paulette Gebhardt

Directors 2018-2022

1. Bill Bridgers, immediate past president
2. Clayton Ramsey
3. Annette McEachin

Directors 2020-2024

1. Kristin Everson
2. Dan Wilson, III
3. Jim Martin

~ Paulette Gebhardt



AmazonSmile

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

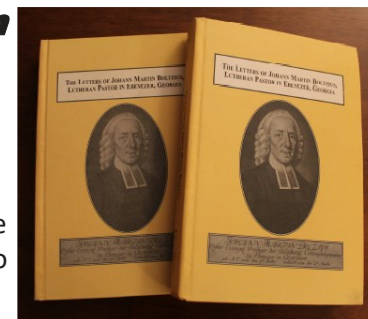
1. Visit smile.amazon.com.
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials.
3. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your choice.
4. Select your charity.
5. Start shopping!
6. Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your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



The Letters of Johann Martin Boltzcius, Lutheran Pastor in Ebenezer Books for Sale

The Letters of Johann Martin Boltzcius, Lutheran Pastor in Ebenezer, Georgia are currently available for the fantastic clearance price of \$50!!! This two-volume hardback set is regularly \$117.70, so be sure to snap these up while you can. These books are new and unused, but they have been in storage in the GSS Museum store room. Their covers are fading a little, and there are a few minor marks on some of the covers. Current sale price is limited to one set per GSS member. The extra 10% GSS member discount will not be applied to this purchase. Payment options are check, cash, money order, or credit/debit card. You can pick up your books at the GSS Museum. Out-of-town shipping is available, but it will cost about \$15 to ship these books via USPS Priority Mail.

To order call the museum at (912) 754-7001, Patsy Zeigler at (912) 655-4555, or Erika Bragg at (912) 658-2460.



Lively Salzburger Heritage Poster Contest

Open to all GSS members from Second Grade to Senior Adult

2020 title is

Pestilences, Diseases, Epidemics, and Remedies at Ebenezer

Contest directions and the entry form will be available soon. It will be posted on the website, visitebenezer.com and Facebook, **Visit Ebenezer**. You will also be able to pick up an application from the GSS office on Tuesday or Friday 10a.m. to 12p.m. You can also have one emailed to you.

Deadline: All **entry forms** must be received by the GSS Office by noon on Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

GSS Board member Dan Wilson, III is organizing this event and is lining up members to serve as judges for the contest. Please contact him if you can help.



The **GSS Museum** recently ordered **frisbees** for our Gift Shoppe. These frisbees feature a white swan logo drawn by GSS President Claudia Christiansen. They are made in USA, are 9.5" in diameter, and are available in blue or red.



BLOOMING TREASURES

Amaryllis bulbs originally from the flower garden of Annie Helmly Kessler have been donated by her granddaughter Mary Ann Kessler Berry. Over forty years ago, six large bulbs were a gift to Mary Ann from her aunt Ila Kessler Zeigler at the family Christmas gift exchange. These bulbs became the gift that kept on giving. They were planted at the Berrys' first home in Winter Park, Florida. The bulbs multiplied to become a beautiful bed of red and peppermint blooms in the spring. Later the bulbs moved with Mary Ann, Franklin, and Jennie to the Berry family farm in Bowling Green, Kentucky where they spent the next 30 years. The bulbs had to be dug up each fall and then replanted each spring due to the harsher winter weather. The bulbs liked the sandy soil beds created just for them. They multiplied and multiplied taking over most of the courtyard garden space. As Mary Ann and Franklin approached retirement several years ago, arthritis made it difficult to take care of the bulbs. Mary Ann offered amaryllises to family members so that many people could enjoy the bulbs and carry on the Grandma Annie amaryllis tradition. That winter, she boxed up 15 groupings of bulbs totaling well over a hundred bulbs. She was overwhelmed by all the notes and photos she received of beautiful blooming amaryllises from all over the South. When Mary Ann and Franklin moved to Oregon to be near their daughter Jennie, their son-in law Ravi, and their grandchildren Maya and Nathan, they took with them the remaining bulbs. She planted about ten at their house and the others at her daughter's house. After taking them up for the winter, they discovered that many of the bulbs had been damaged or destroyed by local grub worms. Later that fall, Patsy Shearouse Zeigler (daughter-in-law of Ila Zeigler) and Ruth Kessler Dostal (daughter of Vaden Kessler) asked if Mary Ann had any of Grandma Annie's amaryllis bulbs left to plant at Ebenezer. She recounted her tale of woe, and asked if they would still like to have them. Gill and Patsy Zeigler, their daughter April Pilcher, and her children Mason, Colt, and Sadie, and Ruth Dostal, and her granddaughter Samantha prepared the beds and planted the bulbs that had traveled from East Coast to West and back to finally find themselves at rest back home. With the spring rains, they are reported to be doing well.

When you visit Ebenezer, be sure to stop and take a look at the amaryllises planted in front of the museum and parsonage. ~ Patsy Zeigler



2021 Salzburger History Calendars On Sale

Our "Salzburger History Sketches" wall calendars for 2021 are currently available to pre-order for \$12. These 11x17 calendars are being created as a fundraiser for the Loest Research Library. Calendars will feature full-color photos and biographical and historical sketches that are important to Georgia Salzburger and Ebenezer history. "Salzburger History Sketches" calendars will be available to purchase at Heritage Day for \$15. Receive a \$3 discount and pre-order your 12 month calendar today by mailing a check or money order for \$12 to:

Barbara Scott
1890 Old Dixie Hwy S.
Clyo, GA 31303

Please include your name, address, and phone number on a 3x5 index card when ordering.

Your email address is optional.

Checks should be made payable to Barbara Scott. Paypal is also a payment option, but please call for payment instructions using Paypal.

Out-of-town shipping is available, but it will include added costs for postage and packaging.

Questions? Contact:

Loest Research Library Librarian *Barbara Scott* (912) 660-1786

Loest Research Library Committee member *Erika Bragg* (912) 658-2460



Calendar Pre-Order Form

Make your check or money order for \$12 payable to Barbara Scott and send to Barbara Scott, 1890 Old Dixie Hwy S. Clyo, GA 31303

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

