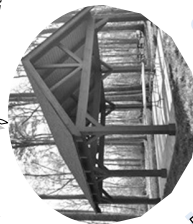




Georgia Salzburger Society
2980 Ebenezer Road
Georgia Highway 275
Rincon, GA 31326

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Dan Wilson, Jr. Pavilion
In Progress



The Georgia Salzburger Society

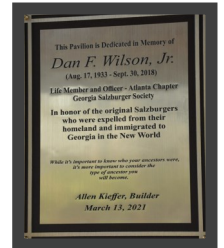
Vol. 32, No. 2

Spring 2021



Pavilion Dedication

The Dan Wilson, Jr. Pavilion was dedicated on March 13, 2021 during the Landing Day meeting and celebration. Members of the Atlanta Chapter who attended the dedication of the pavilion included Dan Wilson, Jr.'s



widow, Anne, her two sons, Dan and Jim Wilson, Jim's wife and two children. Dan Wilson, III talked



about his father's long-standing appreciation of and dedication to his Salzburger heritage. Then he



gave a brief background on the need for a pavilion at Ebenezer. Allen Kieffer, the contractor, spoke about the construction and recognized those who helped with the building of the pavilion. These volunteers included Kerry Edwards, Marty Edwards, Norman Turner, Irving Zoller, and Gill Zeigler.

A memorial plaque was presented to the family and mounted on a post of the pavilion by Dan and Jim Wilson.



A special thanks to the **Exley Lumber Company** in Clio for the incredible attention to details processing the boards for the construction of the pavilion.



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: gaslbgr@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

Loest Research Librarian:

Barbara Scott

REGISTRAR: Debra Herrin

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR:

Sandra Wingate

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Charlie Arnsdorff

CHAPLAIN: Pastor Richard Johnson

PAST PRES: Henry Mingledorff

ADMIN ASSISTANT: Jennifer Nash

DIRECTORS

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

To March 2024

Allison Bledsoe Diane Holder

Becky Morgan Dylan Mulligan

Sandra Wingate

GSS NEWSLETTER

Published by Anne Miller

Edited by Kristin Everson

Newsletter

Published Quarterly

Send news and inquiries to the

GSS Office

Next Board Meeting

August 14, 2021



President's Message

Spring at Ebenezer has been very busy. Being careful and cautious about crowding, but not staying home, a variety of volunteers have proceeded with projects at Ebenezer and achieved many things of importance. You will read more about them in this newsletter.

The first interesting thing we did after Landing Day was to hold an orientation meeting for new members of the GSS board. This meeting provided opportunities to chat, express ideas and opinions as well as help plan for the coming year.

We reviewed and updated the responsibilities of various committees and gave everyone a chance to decide which committee best suited their talents. Everyone felt that the time was well spent and left feeling that they knew each other better than ever. I must mention that good food, the lovely setting, ease of parking and central location of the restaurant contributed much to the enjoyment of this experience! Thanks to former GSS board secretary, Linda Brannen for her expert help with planning.

We tend to take things at Ebenezer for granted. It has just been there for us for so long! There are many things that are now in need of replacement or repair. Equipment purchased during the 90's has served us well and is now running the power bills up excessively. The building and grounds committee is exploring options based on evaluations from GA Power and professional service technicians. Of course, the unpleasant part of the discussion falls back to costs and budgeting for replacements and repair bills.

Because the GSS operates only on memberships and donations, we will be providing updates on needs in the near future. If you have special interests and talents with the areas of technology, repair, research or landscaping, consider calling the office to volunteer your help. Since we are now conducting meetings at times by internet, you can join a committee without actually being present. The distance to Ebenezer is not the factor it once was.

Please know that the generous contributions and membership updates have been appreciated and are a valuable part of our progress that you will read about in this edition. Many people have sent generous donations with a note to use it for a certain thing such as repairs to the Fail house, power bills, furnishing the new pavilion, buying a new refrigerator for the parsonage building, or helping with postage for newsletters.

It is our honor and responsibility to maintain the Ebenezer historic site and preserve the artifacts representing the GA Salzburger heritage. Without your thoughtful contribution, we could not be vigilant with our proceedings. Many thanks to all who are interested and involved.

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.

Name: _____

RENEWAL NOTICE

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____



Georgia Salzburger Society 2021 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.



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



Here's how to shop AmazonSmile: 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

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 (GA Salzburger Society).
4. Select your charity (GA Salzburger Society).
5. Start shopping!
6. Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at **AmazonSmile**.

IN MEMORIAM

Susan Bourne Carr (12 Apr 1957 – 22 Dec 2020)
 Joe Virgil "Bud" Dasher, Jr. (31 Oct 1924 – 09 Aug 2019)
 Alecia Ann Waters Evans (12 Sep – 09 Feb 2021)
 Winston Wallace Exley (01 Jul 1941 – 04 Mar 2021)
 Joseph "Jodie" Moore Lee, III (1936 - 17 Jul 2020)
 Mary Will Marchman Long (10 Apr 1938 – 21 Jan 2021)
 Evelyn Louise Wisenbaker Savoie (26 Mar 1925 – 11 Apr 2020)
 Judy Neidlinger Bourne Waters (24 Jan 1932 – 22 Mar 2021)

Although he was not a member of GSS, we would like to inform members of the society that Mr. Anton Thuswaldner, artist, sculptor and creator of the Georgia Salzburger Monument in Emmet Park, Savannah, passed away, Tuesday, March 2, 2021, age 92, in his home in Kaprun, Salzburg.

Please notify the office if you know of a deceased Salzburger member.



A Culinary Journey through Germany

Cooking and Baking



Speaker: Kessi Kuhn Brown, from Germany, is completing her Ph.D. in German Studies at Georgetown University. Kessi will share her knowledge of popular German cooking and baking traditions such as currywurst.

When: Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: Dining Hall of New Ebenezer Retreat Center on Ebenezer Rd., in Rincon, GA (across the road from Jerusalem Lutheran Church)

Sponsored by the Teutonic  **Council of Savannah, GA**



Hosted by the Georgia Salzburger Society

(Continued from page 5) **Note:** I subsequently researched my paternal line and found that two of the several sons of my gggfather Guilford PEAVY (1800-after 1882) came from Screven County (son of Joseph PEAHEY, whose ancestors came from New England through Delaware to North Carolina where they would be Revolutionary Soldiers): in the 1850s, my gggfather Henry H. PEVY, C.S.A. and his brother James PEVY, C.S.A. married sisters, daughters of Solomon HINELY of Jerusalem Church and became the forebears of almost every PEAVY and PEVEY that you may know in Effingham County. The sisters' mother was an ARNSDORFF, and their grandmother a SHEAROUSE. Thus, although neither my Dad nor my Mom (through GRINER) knew it, they were both descended from the Georgia Salzburger community. ~ Robert Peavy

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GSS MUSEUM MEMORIES



During the Covid Pandemic this year, the museum has been very busy. It is open on Saturday, 3:00-5:00 p.m. and by appointment.

- A large family portrait collection was received from David Exley and family.
- Sarah Shuptrine donated a Shuptrine family Bible.
- A mill stone made of freshwater granite used as the bottom stone on a grain grinding mill was given by Sandi Arnaldo Correia.
- Amaryllis bulbs from the flower garden of Annie Helmly Kessler were given by her granddaughter, Mary Ann Kessler Berry, and were planted beside the museum.
- Museum Committee organized Christmas Market held on Sunday, December 6, 2020. The Marketplatz was open and sold homemade goodies and gift shop items.
- Marketplatz was set up for Landing Day on March 13, 2021.
- Super Museum Sunday was observed on May 2, 2021. The Museum, Parsonage, Salzburger House and the Jerusalem Lutheran Church were opened for visitors.
- Tours have been given to many visitors from California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Chile, and Canada.
- Tours were given to students from Effingham Middle School, local private and home schools, and New Ebenezer Retreat Center's Ebenezer Alive program.
- The *Detailed Reports* were reorganized by volume number.
- The museum gift shop was reorganized.
- A catalog of items for sale in the museum gift shop was created.
- Reprinted *Town Lot Assignments* by Norman V. Turner, *Grace Lutheran Church* by Alvin O. Gnann, *Little Cricket's Tour of Ebenezer* by Ruth Dostal, and cookbooks.
- New items in the gift shop include custom made swan pins, items with logo such as umbrellas, frisbees, cups, and Tervis tumblers. Bound journals and notepads were create and printed.
- A dehumidifier was purchased and installed in the upstairs storage room.
- Cleaned museum, Parsonage, and Salzburger House.

A special thank you to museum committee members who so faithfully give of their time and talents to share the Salzburger heritage with visitors and to maintain the buildings: Robert Peavy, Erika Bragg, Sandy Gibson, Becky Morgan, Larry and Paulette Zettler, Lisa Repasy, Anna Bragg and Gill Zeigler. ~ Patsy Zeigler

GSS Memberships

April 10, 2021

Debra Stafford Herrin, Registrar

Upgrade to Life Membership

Melinda Jo Farmer Dudley
Marty Irving Edwards
Judy Hays

Direct Descendant

Jorg Mengersdorff
Matthias Seckinger
Bartholomaeus Reiser

Life Membership

Robert Lescoe Bourne, Jr.
Lori Ann Causey
Valerie Ann Duty-Citrano
Jerry Carlton Groover
Lisa Suzanne Arnsdorff Moore
April Suzanne Cribbs Newkirk
Trisha Ann Holland Moseley
Mallie Jamieson Seckinger
Grace Suzanne Freret Seeling
Mallory Suzan Tuttle

Johannes Neidlinger
Matthias Seckinger
Bartholomaeus Reiser
Peter Gruber
Andreas Arnsdorff
Christian Oechslein
Matthias Seckinger
Matthias Seckinger
George Frederick Rester
Peter Gruber

Regular Membership

Angela Rogers Bragg
Tonya Michelle Donaldson
Joan Gantt Earnhart
Angela Henley
Ben Holtzendorff
Virginia Artley Lynah
Dianne Elizabeth Rogan Martin
Mary Suzanne Donaldson Moore
Denise Elaine Morgan
Noel Branch Wright III
Wade Meredith Zettler

Peter Gruber
Peter Gruber
Peter Gruber
Martin Schumann
William von Holtzendorff
Johann Scheraus
Batholomew Zant
John Adam Treutlen
Bartholomaeus Reiser
Daniel Shubdrein
Matthias Zettler

Associate Life Member

Vicki Suzan Tuttle

Wife of Jerry Carlton Groover

Friend

Michael D. Gutzler

Friend - Life Membership

Hannes Eichmann

Supplemental Membership

Sandra Elizabeth Jones Wingate
Eric Lowell Bragg

Conrad Rahn
Peter Gruber

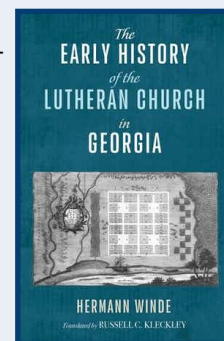
Salzburger Heritage Research Committee Year in Review



After receiving approval from the GSS Board to reinstate the committee devoted to research, our newly recruited but experienced researchers got to work. The research team members are Erika Bragg, Kristin Everson, Debra Herrin, Annette McEachin, Robert Peavy, and Sandra Wingate. A 2021 calendar, a group effort with Loest Research Library Committee, was our first project. Committee members researched subjects for the calendar and wrote the historical and biographical sketches. The two committees also combined funds to purchase a manual coil binding machine to be used for the calendar and any future publications. Committee members then received copies of A. O. Gnnann's essay, "The History of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church", and began a light edit. The essay was printed and spiral bound and is now for sale in the museum gift shop. Salzburger Heritage Research Committee is also responsible for compiling documents related to the old Salzburger/Fail House. Debra and Erika believe they have traced the ownership of the original town lot back to Johann Caspar Graniwetter. The origin of the house has yet to be documented, but it likely came through the Weitman family. The committee developed a questionnaire for use in upcoming Fail family member interviews. All of the research, documents, restoration info, and the interviews will be compiled into a booklet about the house. Robert continues his research into the history of Jerusalem Lutheran Church and is gathering as many facts and photos as possible. Many Georgia Salzburger families are actively being researched by our committee members: Gruber, Schmidt, Kieffer, Shearouse, Seckinger, and Gnnann. If any GSS member has a research request, please make your request known to a research team member. ~ Erika Bragg

New in the Museum Gift Shop

The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia, written by Hermann Winde and translated by Russell C. Kleckley, is now available in paperback for \$35 and hardcover for \$50. Shipping is available for \$8.55 per book. This long awaited book is valuable to any reader wishing to learn more about the German Lutherans at Ebenezer in the colonial Georgia period.





Loest Research Library Year End Summary



This past year has presented some unique problems. The size of the library did not allow for social distancing, and we were forced to close from March 21, 2020 through April 3, 2021. In spite of this, we managed to accomplish a great deal that we are proud to share with you.

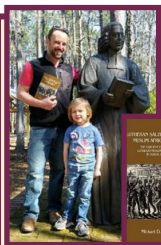
A pamphlet was designed and printed about the Loest Research Library so that we can share information with others about our very unique collection.

A Loest Research Library channel was developed on YouTube. The Landing Day Programs, Bethany Cemetery, and a Bethel Cemetery Survey have been uploaded to the channel, [Loest Research Library Archive](#).

The library and the research committees shared the cost and purchased a TruBind S-20 binding machine so that we can do our own printing and binding.

A 2021 wall calendar was created as a fund raiser for the Loest Research Library. The "Salzburger History Sketches" wall calendar pages were researched and created by GSS members. The members of the library committee printed, assembled and sold the calendars. A total of 133 calendars were sold at a profit of \$1,493.10.

There were some important additions to the holdings of the library that deserve mentioning. A German student, Fabia Weisser, studying in the United States, contributed her thesis, *Encounters with Native Americans in Early Colonial Georgia*. She spent a day in our library researching. Four volumes of the *Colonial Records of Georgia* have also been added. These volumes are hard to find and are certainly a valuable asset to our present collection. The new additions are volumes 21, 28 part 2, 29, and 30. ~ **Barbara Scott**



GSS Museum News

The GSS Museum has received several donations in the past two months. Pastor Mike Gutzler of Virginia, donated ***Lutheran Salzburger and Muslim African Moors***, a book he researched and self-published about the Georgia Salzburger.



Richard and Bruce Norton donated a dual wheelforge. Shadrack Grovenstein bought the forge in 1821. Angus Nesbit Grovenstein inherited it in 1852 and used it at his home in Guyton, which is presently used as a Bed and Breakfast in Guyton, Georgia.



Don and Jodi Lassiter donated a number of items including old maps, newsletters, costumes, and registrar documents.

Researching Our Salzburger Heritage I WENT TO SEE AN OLD MAN

Following graduation from Groves High School in 1964, and before entering college, I took the time to trace my family tree a bit. I drove from Port Wentworth to the Middle Ground/Black Creek/Sheppard's Switch area of Screven County to talk with my maternal grandfather, James Henry BOYKIN (Jim 1892–1965). He graciously helped me some, but then paused and said that I needed to go see "an old man down the road." An OLD man! I was 17 and Granddaddy was 71 — how much older a man did I need? Well, his 86-year-old second cousin Jesse Winwood BOYKIN (1878–1971) was down the road a bit, and had chosen to live an even more Spartan life than my Granddaddy! That house had been Mr. Jesse's home for many decades; he could fix it up, or he could move . . . or he could live just the way he wanted. His home had no evidence of paint that I could see, and one could see through cracks between horizontal boards into the next barely-furnished room. But, Mr. Jesse's mind was fully furnished and tight as a drum. With no effort, he gave me three or four generations of my Mom's ancestors that had preceded their own, including her Salzburger community lines: My maternal grandmother, Madie Louise SCOTT BOYKIN (1890–1931) was the daughter of Mary Ann GRINER SCOTT (1827–1901), a Civil War widow; I then found that that widow was the granddaughter of Zoeth SPOONER of Massachusetts (himself a descendant of Richard WARREN of the Mayflower), and the ggggdaughter of our German immigrant Johann Caspar GREINER (born 1685 Fleinheim, Württemberg, died after 1752 in Halifax District of Colonial Georgia). That Civil War widow was also descended from immigrants of the Second Transport, 1734. My ggggparnts John BOYKIN, Sr. and Sarah TANNER were married in St. Matthews Parish by a Salzburger pastor in 1772, &c. Thus, Granddaddy BOYKIN and his elder cousin opened a world of genealogical research for me, and thereby presented me with personal links to our nation's history. I am 74 now; when I was 17, I went to see an old man of 71, and he sent me to an old man of 86. How old a man and old a woman do you need to talk with? . . . While you still have 5 them! Don't wait! (Continued on page 10)





Landing Day Celebration

Our annual Landing Day Celebration was held on Saturday, March 13, 2021. This year's event was combined with what would have been the



Heritage Day Festival, which was postponed because of Covid-19 concerns.

Landing Day began at 9:30 when Girl Scout troop 30235 raised the five flags relating to Ebenezer.



The "Matriarchs of Effingham" cemetery tour was very well-received by those in attendance. Six storytellers, Erika Bragg, Brenda Dasher, Diane Holder, Lena Ruth Nizzi, Lisa Repasy, and Barbara Scott, focused on six ladies buried at Jerusalem cemetery whose families were some of the foundational families in Effingham County.

Museum Curator, Patsy Zeigler, and committee members, Lisa Repasy, and Becky Morgan, had



stocked the Market Platz with baked goods, fresh fruit, hand-made items, and GSS related souvenirs.

Loest Research Library librarian, Barbara Scott, had a display of the many research books available to purchase in the GSS Museum gift shop.

The Registrar, Debra Herrin, and Assistant, Sandra Wingate, were both on hand at the



membership table and helped a large number of visitors with membership applications and general questions.



Because this event had been combined with Heritage Day, we had a number of vendors in attendance. The Coker sisters



had their lovely handmade ragdolls for sale. Two local authors, Rickie Bragg and Lynn Skinner, signed and sold their books, some newly published. The Effingham Extension Agent, Blake Carter, and two master gardeners set up a native plants display and even gave away free samples of seeds and seedlings. The



Teutonic Council was represented by Dieter Gunkel and Joachim Michels. They provided literature about Teutonic Council to visitors. Morgan, Anne, and Joseph Phillips set up heritage displays to educate others about soap making and beekeeping. Brian Cohen and the Backwater Expeditions team



displayed kayaks and information regarding kayaking on Ebenezer Creek.



Our guest speaker was Jennifer Nash, a certified archeologist and GSS's office administrator. Her topic, "Archaeology at the Pavilion,"



included her displays and discussions of her finding during test digs at the site. Her display of artifacts were on exhibit throughout the day.

The day's events were filmed by Christopher Bragg and uploaded to the [Loest Research Library Archive](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) on YouTube.com. To view, find the links on [Visit Ebenezer](https://www.facebook.com/VisitEbenezer) on Facebook or GSS website at [visitebenezer.com](https://www.visitebenezer.com).



~ Noble Boykin and Erika Bragg