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



We Need



# The Georgia Salzburger Society

Vol. 33, No. 2

Spring 2022

## Mark Your Calendar Heritage Day, September 5, 2022

As part of our Heritage Day Festival in September, the Georgia Salzburger Society is pleased to host as our keynote speaker, Dr. Russell C. Kleckley.

Dr. Kleckley, (Doctor of Theology, 1990, University of Munich), is Professor of Religion Emeritus at Augsburg University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He has edited, translated, and published many works that are important to Georgia Salzburger history.

Dr. Kleckley's translations include:

- *The Letters of Johann Martin Boltzius, Lutheran Pastor in Ebenezer, Georgia;*
- Hermann Winde's *The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia;*
- *The Letters of Johann Ernst Bergmann, Ebenezer, Georgia, 1786-1824;* and the soon-to-be-published Salzburger transport project.



The highlights of Heritage Day 2022 include a variety of opportunities to learn more about your Salzburger heritage! Make plans to come and enjoy the various food, crafts, exhibits, demonstrations, activities and booths. Here is a glimpse of the extra activities being planned for **Heritage Day weekend**.

### Saturday, September 3, 2022:

- Trolley tour of Salzburger history in Savannah at 10 a.m.
- Lunch after the trolley tour
- Kayak tours of Ebenezer Creek at 9 and 11 a.m.
- Genealogy workshop at Ebenezer at 2 p.m.

### Sunday, September 4, 2022:

- Organ concert at 3 p.m.
- Dinner after the concert

### Monday, September 5, 2022:

- Festival Activities
- Lunch
- Speaker, Dr. Russell C. Kleckley



**RSVP** by calling the GSS office (912) 754-7001 if you would like to participate in any of the activities listed above.

The topic for this year's Hinely Salzburger Heritage Scholarship poster contest is **"The Importance of Historical Letters and Journals."** An application can be obtained from the GSS office or [Visit Ebenezer | Facebook](#) or the webpage [govisitebenezer.com](http://govisitebenezer.com).



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](mailto:gaslzbrgr@aol.com)

Website: <http://govisiteebenezer.com>

## OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT:** Claudia Christiansen

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Noble Boykin

**SECRETARY:** Gaye Royal

**TREASURER:** Jerry Groover

**CURATOR:** Patsy Zeigler

**ASSISTANT CURATOR:** Robert Peavy

**Loest Research Librarian:** Dylan Mulligan

**Assistant Loest Research Librarian**

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**ASSISTANT REGISTRAR:** Sandra Wingate

**PARLIAMENTARIAN:** Charlie Arnsdorff

**CHAPLAIN:** Pastor Richard Johnson

**PAST PRES:** Henry Mingledorff

**ADMIN ASSISTANT:** Jennifer Nash

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### To March 2023

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Erika Bragg Lena Ruth Nizzi  
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### To March 2025

Allen Kieffer Anne Miller  
Marty Edwards Tom Grovenstein  
Virginia Spano

**Edited by** Kristin Everson

**Published by** Anne Miller

## Newsletter

**Published Quarterly**

Send news and inquiries to the  
GSS Office.



## President's Message

Salzburger history is about triumphs of ordinary people who put their faith in God. By their faith they sought freedom to worship, work, and live according to that faith. We take pride in our heritage: pride in the history of Ebenezer, pride in the church that was built by Salzburgers on the land given to them, and pride in the ancestry we share as Georgia Salzburgers. All these things are remembered, celebrated, and preserved at Ebenezer.

It is essential that we preserve our heritage and celebrate Salzburger accomplishments over time. With these things we have inherited, we also have inherited responsibilities. Please note the various ways we are fulfilling these responsibilities as you read through this newsletter. With these plans and projects comes work, funding, accountability, and needs. Thank you for the donations that are being sent for the buildings preservation projects! All donations of various amounts are meaningful and appreciated!

What can we do to show our pride in Salzburger history? What can we do to show our responsibilities are being fulfilled? Each descendant can participate. Whether you are a member of GSS or not, you can participate in helping maintain the responsibilities of preservation, preserving and protecting our buildings, grounds, and artifacts. Two key things can help.

1. Be a member of GSS.
2. Be a volunteer.

If you know friends or family who are not members of GSS, please let them know that they are welcome and need to join. Why join? Why be a member? Because all the good things that are happening at Ebenezer are totally funded by membership money, donations, and grants. No funding comes from the county, city, or state, or the federal government tax dollars. And because all the tours, festivals, newsletter publications, and social media management are made possible by a very few volunteers.

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## GSS Memberships

Presented for Approval

May 14, 2022

Debra Stafford Herrin, Registrar



### Life Membership

Matthew Benjamin Driggers  
Lori Harkleroad Godrey  
Juliann Robinette Hunter  
Erica Len Herndon Timmons  
Winfield Joseph Timmons

### Associate Life Member

Richard Schyler Johnson, Jr.  
Henry Stevenson Jones, Jr.

### Regular Membership

Roger A. Bainbridge  
Mary-Charles D'Arcy Bledsoe  
Preston Harms Bledsoe  
Virginia Brooks Bledsoe  
Debra Ann McDonough Carnahan  
Mary Ann Ramsey Crow  
Jonathan Colby Greene  
Rubert Clary Martin, Jr.  
Sara Catherine Fletcher Reynolds

### Young Salzburgers

Knox Nathan Greene  
Pearl Evelyn Greene  
Jacob Carlton Lewis

### Supplemental Certificate

Mary Jane Martin Shuman

### Immigrant Ancestor

Abraham Geiger  
Mathias Burgsteiner  
Mathias Burgsteiner  
Peter Gruber  
Peter Gruber

Johann Georg Heidt  
Spouse of Linda Blackburn Jones,  
Johann Schmidt

Johannes Scherraus  
John Adam Treutlen  
John Adam Treutlen  
John Adam Treutlen  
Conrad Rahn  
Peter Gruber  
Johann Schmidt  
John Adam Treutlen  
Matthias Seckinger

Johann Schmidt  
Johann Schmidt  
Johann Schmidt

John Adam Treutlen

## In Memoriam

*Miriam Smart Bryan*

*Walter Leon Hughes, Jr.*

*Lawrence Rodell Seckinger*

*(Sep 29, 1927 – Jan 26, 2022)*

*(May 31, 1947 – Dec 08, 2021)*

*(Mar 08, 1937 – Apr 07, 2022)*

## Supplemental Certificates NOW AVAILABLE

Many of you have expressed a desire for supplemental certificates as a way to honor additional immigrant ancestors. Now you have an opportunity to do just that. For example, if you joined GSS as a descendant of Peter Gruber you may now purchase a certificate as a descendant of Ruprecht Kalcher.

Certificates will only be issued with the names of the original German and Swiss immigrants.

We are offering the supplemental certificates to members in good standing for a onetime fee of \$25.00 per certificate. Funds raised will go toward preservation projects. At this time, repairs on the Salzburger house are a priority.



To qualify for supplemental certificates you must be a life member or, as a regular member, your membership dues must be up-to-date. You may request an application by calling or emailing Debra Stafford Herrin, Registrar, at (912)657-5675, [gssdebraherrin@gmail.com](mailto:gssdebraherrin@gmail.com), or downloading from the website: [Membership | Visit Ebenezer GA - Home of the Georgia Salzburger Society \(govisiteebenezer.com\)](#)

Each completed application must be for one ancestor, link the generations, be accompanied by a check for \$25.00, and be submitted to GSS, P.O. Box 1629, Rincon, GA 31326.

I hope you will take advantage of this offer.

## Seckinger Family Workshop

On Saturday, June 4th, 27 people attended the Seckinger Family Workshop presented by research committee chair, Erika Bragg.

Special thanks to the Board members in attendance: Patsy Zeigler, Gaye Royal, and Tom Grovenstein.

Thank you also to the church for allowing us to use their building. The attendance for this event exceeded the capacity of our Seckinger Board Room, so we were able to move to the social hall of Jerusalem Church.

This workshop was well-received by all the attendees. After the event, we had fun visiting with cousins and meeting new ones. The museum and library were busy with workshop attendees who stayed to learn more.

There is a video of the presentation on Loest Research Library Archive.

[Loest Research Library | Visit Ebenezer GA - Home of the Georgia Salzburger Society \(govisiteebenezer.com\)](#) Channel to video: [\(775\) Seckinger Family Workshop - YouTube](#)



~ Erika Bragg

## Zipperer Genealogy Update

In the fall of 2021, the Salzburger Heritage Research Committee held a virtual meeting to discuss important findings related to Peter Zipperer. At the conclusion of the meeting, the research committee voted to recommend updating the genealogy of the Zipperer family.

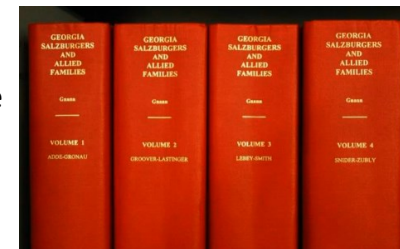
On February 12, 2022, the GSS Board heard these recommendations and voted to recognize Peter Zipperer as the correct Georgia Salzburger immigrant ancestor. The original genealogy named Christian Zipperer as the immigrant and labeled Peter as Christian's son. This change was an important step to take and had to be backed by substantial historical records.

Peter Zipperer was baptized on August 6, 1705, in Bernstadt, a town in modern day Baden-Württemberg, Germany. He married Ursula Fischer, and their son Christian was baptized December 14, 1733. On April 9, 1751, Peter requested permission from the authorities to leave the Territory of the Imperial City of Ulm. He came to Georgia with the Second Swabian Transport in October of that same year.

Peter lived in Georgia, held land in Georgia, and died in Georgia. Christian Zipperer was named the administrator of Peter's estate on October 2, 1767. The estate inventory was filed on January 21, 1768.

Peter was not the son of Christian Zipperer as shown in Georgia Salzburger genealogy. Peter was Christian's father, and as such is the patriarch of the Zipperer family in Georgia.

Anyone with questions is welcomed to contact a research committee member to discuss this important addition to our Georgia Salzburger heritage. ~ Erika Bragg



### President's Message, Continued from page 2.

Their median ages are in the 65-to-80-year range. Really? Yes. What we need is more volunteers of *any* age to show up and step up to assist these dedicated volunteers.

Please call or notify the office to give your contact information, tell what contribution you can make or how you can help. We appreciate any time you can give, whether it's cleaning up the grounds for an hour, folding newsletters, helping at a festival, or assisting one day each week. We can do this together. ~ Claudia Christiansen, GSS President



# A Recap of Landing Day.

We celebrated Landing Day on Saturday, March 12th, 288 years after our ancestors first arrived in Georgia.



An interested and enthusiastic crowd gathered at Ebenezer to mark the occasion. Even though strong winds and rain were in the

forecast, we were blessed with a beautiful day. Lunch, traditional good rice soup (*gute Reis-Suppe*), was served in the social hall.



After a short meeting in the church, the new Board was sworn in by Pastor Rick Johnson. Barbara Scott was honored for her years of service as librarian of the Loest Research Library. We want to thank Leigh Martin for playing during the church service.



# Atlanta Chapter Happenings

The Greater Atlanta Chapter of the Georgia Salzburger Society held its bi-annual membership meeting Sunday, February 27, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was at The Peachtree Road Lutheran Church.

As usual, Dan Wilson gave a report from the Georgia Salzburger Society. Then the attendees sang the Salzburger Exile Song.

Vice President, Candace Rausch, introduced the program presented by Clayton H. Ramsey. He gave a review of Hermann Winde's *Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia*. Russell Kleckley translated this book. Following the meeting the attendees enjoyed a fabulous buffet of traditional German cuisine: Wiener schnitzel, grits and shrimp and much more. Our traditional black forest cake was served, along with wine, beer, tea and more. The attendees always enjoy lingering to visit. ~Annette McEachin

The election of a new slate of officers for 2022-2024 was held:

	Directors 2020-2024	Directors 2022-2026
President – Candace Rausch	1. Kristin Everson	1. Bill Bridgers
VP – James Heidt	2. Dan Wilson, III	2. Annette McEachin
Treasurer – Sandy Hanberry	3. Jim Martin, Jr.	3. Rev. Kirk Bridgers
Secretary – Judy Hayes		

## What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support. Georgia Salzburger Society is one of those organizations. We received about \$33 dollars a quarter over the past year. We can increase that amount with a little help from you. AmazonSmile generates donations after you place a qualifying AmazonSmile order. Donation amounts may take several days to update. Donations resulting from promotions or pre-ordered items will take several months to update. Your generated donation amount is the total from all of your previous eligible AmazonSmile orders, even if you have supported different AmazonSmile charities in the past. Donations are issued to registered charities quarterly via electronic bank account deposit. The most recent donations were sent in March 2022. All



donation amounts listed are inclusive of donations since the beginning of the Amazon Smile program in October 2013. If you have questions use the following link. [About AmazonSmile: Program details and FAQ](#)

Jerry Groover June 3, 2022, GSS Treasurer

Dr. Arlin C. Migliazzo's presentation about Purrysburg was *appreciated*. A video is available on YouTube at [\(778\) Georgia Salzburger Society Landing Day 2022 - YouTube](#)

## The Exile Song: continued from page 5

Twelve of these stanzas (omitting stanzas 9 and 14) are much as they are found in: *The Salzburger and Their Descendants: Being the history of a colony of German (Lutheran) Protestants, who emigrated to Georgia in 1734, and settled at Ebenezer, twenty-five miles above the city of Savannah.* By Rev. P. A. Strobel, of the South Carolina Synod, and Principal of the Female Institute, Americus, Georgia (Baltimore: T. Newton Kurtz, 1855). This excellent old historical account of our Salzburger community (up to the 1850s) is available in our Museum Gift Shop, with a discount for members of our society.

Here is the German first stanza, paired with the rhythmic version of its tune in the key of D Major (note the lilting triplets of the 3<sup>rd</sup> line):



German organist, court conductor, and music scholar **Michael Prætorius** (Michael Schultheiß 1571-1621), composed that tune in 1610, likely based on an older melody. The tune is named for its initial association with Prætorius' own 1610 hymn text **Ich dank Dir schon durch deinen Sohn** (*I thank Thee ever through Thy Son*). We use that rhythmic version of the tune (in triple meter); the classic 1941 Lutheran hymnal uses an isometric version (in compound meter), in the key of D $\flat$  Major, as a setting for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm (*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*, Henry W. Baker's paraphrase, 1868).



~ JohnRobert Peavy

## Spotlight on the Loest Research Library

The **Loest** Research Library welcomes Dylan Edward Mulligan as librarian. Mulligan, an attorney in his native Glennville, holds a B.A. in History with a minor in political science from Georgia Southern University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Georgia School of Law. He is a direct descendant of Martin Dasher, and through that line, he is also a direct descendant of the Zittrouer, Groover, Schweighofer, and Meyer families. Mulligan is perhaps best known across the Southeast as “The Georgia Sandman,” for the elaborate sandcastles and sculptures which he has constructed on the Georgia and Florida coasts for many years. ~ Kristin Everson

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## THE EXILE SONG—CONCLUSION

~ JohnRobert Peavy

At our two yearly gatherings, our society commemorates the travails of our Salzburger forefathers of 1731 by singing the first stanza of their *Exile Song*, their legacy from a pious Salzburger exile of 45 years earlier (1686). Please see our newsletters of Summer 2021 for the history of its writing, and of Winter 2022 for the hymn's meaning. Here, we'll read one translation of the hymn's full text, as well as consider its tune.

Our hymnist, **Joseph Schaitberger**, used a hymn tune already known to “*his children*” for singing his German text. For each four line stanza, that tune alternates eight and seven syllables per line (expressed as Meter 87.87); a literal translation into English would not likely fit that tune pattern. Thus, various translations amend and alter the text (but hopefully not its meaning) to poetically wed text to tune.

### A literal translation of the first two stanzas:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Ich bin ein armer Exulant —<br>Also muß ich mich schreiben —<br>Man tut mich aus dem Vaterland<br>Um Gottes Wort vertreiben.                   | 1. I am a poor exile —<br>So I have to write of me —<br>Man does me out of the fatherland<br>To drive out God's Word.                            |
| 2. Doch weiß ich wohl, Herr Jesu mein,<br>Es ist dir auch so gangen.<br>Jetzt soll ich dein Nachfolger sein;<br>Mach's Herr, nach dei'm Verlangen | 2. But know I well, Lord Jesus mine,<br>It was for you also the same.<br>Now shall I your successor be;<br>Do it Lord, according to your desire. |

### A metered (singable) translation of the 14 stanzas (four lines each):

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. I am a wretched exile here— So must my<br>name be written— From Fatherland and all that's<br>dear, For God's word, I am driven.             | 8. God ! I submit now to Thy will, With you I<br>now must stay. To do Thy will I do desire To<br>patiently obey.                                |
| 2. Full well I know, Lord Jesus Christ, Thy treat-<br>ment was no better, Thy follower I now will be;<br>To do Thy will I'm debtor.            | 9. If I had to move to misery, I could not e'er<br>resist. I pray that in that far-off place God<br>grant me sweet friendship.                  |
| 3. And now a pilgrim I must be, In foreign climes<br>must wander. Oh Lord, my prayer ascends to<br>Thee That Thou my path will ponder.         | 10. Now I depart in poverty, In God's name I<br>am going; And one day I will surely wear The<br>crown of heaven glowing.                        |
| 4. O faithful God! be Thou my stay; I give me to<br>Thy keeping; Forsake me not in this my day, Nor<br>when in death I'm sleeping.             | 11. Forth from my home I now must go : My<br>children! Must I leave them? O God! my tears<br>in Anguish flow — Shall I no more receive<br>them? |
| 5. Thy faith I freely have confessed: Dare I deny<br>it? Never! Although they call me "heretic," And<br>soul and body sever.                   | 12. O lead me God unto that place Though in<br>some distant nation, Where I may have Thy<br>glorious Word and learn Thy great salvation.        |
| 6. My ornament, the galling chain; For Jesus'<br>sake I wear it, And scarcely feel its weight or<br>pain, While in His faith I bear it.        | 13. And though in this dark vale of tears I yet<br>awhile must tarry, I know that Thou to heav-<br>en, at length, My ransomed soul will carry!  |
| 7. Though Satan and the world conspire To seize<br>each earthly treasure, If in my heart true faith<br>but dwell, I'm rich beyond all measure, | 14. The one who made this little song,<br>Nameless shall he remain; He openly accept-<br>ed Christ, But the Pope's word he defamed.             |

Continued on page 8

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# Things Are Hopping at the Museum



The GSS Museum has had a very busy spring!

Patsy and Lisa hosted a group of 12 kayakers. Robert held a special tour for a group of 25 visitors from Darien.



Patsy, Erika, and Lisa have had numerous school groups visit the museum. The schools included Bulloch Academy, Presbyterian Christian School, Ft. Frederica School, Heritage Academy, Cross School, Faith Christian School, and Effingham County



Patsy and Erika showed the students the church and the museum, and Jennifer volunteered on her day off to do an archaeology demonstration. The students were kindergarteners through 4th graders.



Middle School. Students ranged in age from 5th to 8th graders. The most recent group of students was from Glyndale Baptist Church's Camp Wannabe There.



Thank you to all the volunteers who so faithfully give of their time and talents to share the Salzburger heritage with visitors and to maintain the buildings. Thanks to Bill and Lisa Repasy for updating our museum sign. ~ Patsy Zeigler

