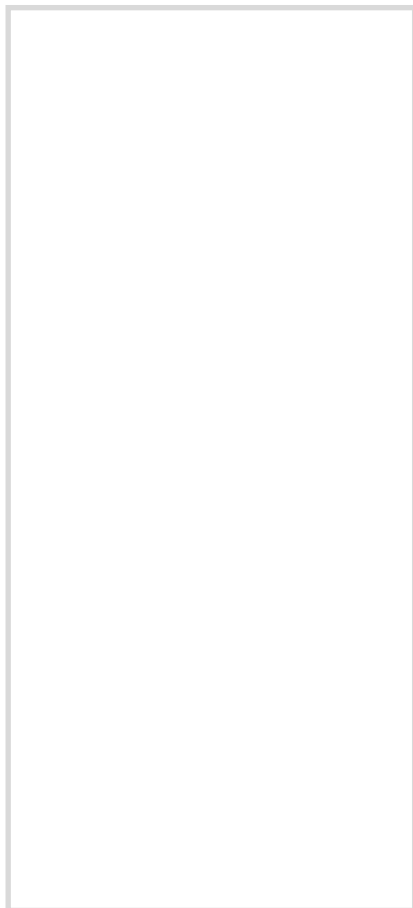


Georgia Salzburger Society
2980 Ebenezer Road
Georgia Highway 275
Rincon, GA 31326



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The Georgia Salzburger Society

Vol. 34 No. 3

Summer 2023

HERITAGE DAY WEEKEND, 2023

The annual Georgia Salzburger Society Heritage Day Festival will run from Saturday, September 2, 2023 through Monday, September 4, 2023.

- ♦ **Saturday**, 9:00 a.m.: Trae Zipperer will host a veterans' graves recognition and cleaning project at the Jerusalem Lutheran Church cemetery. This important service project is a way to show respect for our ancestors by cleaning the gravestones of the veterans who served and sacrificed.
- ♦ **Saturday**, 9:45 a.m.: "Old Savannah Trolley Tour" will meet at Pirate's House in Savannah. RSVP by email - lamiller_2@msn.com.
- ♦ **Saturday**, 1:30 p.m.: Erika Bragg will host a research workshop at Ebenezer.
- ♦ **Saturday**, throughout the day, guided kayak tours will be held on the Ebenezer Creek. RSVP (912) 398-6930.
- ♦ **Sunday**, 11:00 a.m.: Worship services begin at Jerusalem Lutheran Church.
- ♦ There will be a covered dish lunch immediately following the church service.
- ♦ After lunch, the festival set up will begin.
- ♦ **Sunday**, 3 p.m.: A Hymn Festival presented by Thomas J. White, Cantor of Lutheran Church of the Ascension, will be held at Jerusalem Lutheran Church.
- ♦ **Monday**, 10 a.m.: The festival will include the Hinely Poster Contest, vendors, children's activities, and heritage displays and demonstrations.
- ♦ **Monday**, 11 a.m.: The church service and annual meeting will be held in the sanctuary. The keynote speaker, Charlotte M. Crabtree, will present her program, "And He Took the Cup: The Salzburger Chalice".
- ♦ **Monday**, 11 a.m.: BBQ dinners will be served in the social hall. On the grounds will be bratwurst and hot dogs. Stop by the lemonade barrel for a sampling of Salzburger lemonade. Shop for souvenirs in the GSS Museum Gift Shop and Market Platz.
- ♦ Family tables will be set up under the Dan Wilson, Jr. Memorial Pavilion. Volunteers have compiled old photographs and documents relating to the following families: Gruber, Heck, Helmly, Hinely, Morgan, Neidlinger, Rahn, and Seckinger.
- ♦ The GSS Museum and Loest Research Library will be open special hours throughout the weekend.
- ♦ All the specific details will be found throughout this newsletter.
- ♦ **Monday**, 3 p.m.: Festival will end.

Submitted by Erika Bragg, GSS Vice President



Founded in 1925

Georgia Salzburger Society

An Affiliate Chapter of the Georgia Historical Society

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

OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday and Friday
9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
Phone: 912-754-7001
Email: gaslzbrgr@aol.com
Website: <http://govisiteebenezer.com>

OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: Noble Boykin
VICE PRESIDENT: Erika Bragg
SECRETARY: Gaye Royal
TREASURER: Jerry Groover
CURATOR: Patsy Zeigler
ASST CURATOR: Robert Peavy
LOEST RESEARCH LIBRARIAN:
Dylan Mulligan
ASST LOEST RESEARCH LIBRARIAN:
Tom Grovenstein
REGISTRAR: Debra Herrin
ASST REGISTRAR: Sandra Wingate
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Charlie Arnsdorff
CHAPLAIN: Pastor Richard Johnson
PAST PRES: Claudia Christiansen
ADMIN ASST: Jennifer Nash

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
To March 2024
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To March 2026
Linda Brannen Dot Cauley
Judy O'Neal Jean Thomas
Dan Wilson, III

Edited by Kristin Everson
Published by Anne Miller

Newsletter
Published Quarterly
Send news and inquiries to the
GSS Office.



President's Message

As most of you know, we have just held the "ribbon cutting" for the renovations to the old Fail House at Ebenezer this past Saturday. The Fail House is one of the oldest, if not THE oldest, residential houses in Effingham County. The Georgia Salzburger Society has invested a total of over \$45,000 for renovations, much of which was contributed by generous donors including members of the Atlanta Chapter. The Society also received a \$5,000 grant from the Preserving America Grant Program which was used toward replacement of the roof.

The renovations included re-glazing of the windows and adding new piers and beams to ensure the ongoing stability of the floors and framework of the house. In May, 2023, the Society Board voted to replace the reproduction wooden roof with a tin roof in order to protect the house and its contents, along with the kitchen, from any further water damage. It is known that the house had a tin roof for a long period during its history. The Society is proud to participate in the preservation of this historic treasure which offers a glimpse into life and conditions on the early Georgia frontier.

The Society has also, just this month, entered into a contract with the Franke Foundation in Halle, Germany, to complete the publication of the journals of Pastor Boltzius from the years 1746, 1757, 1759, and 1763. Small portions of the journals were not previously translated, but which contain interesting information, much of which has to do with the last days of Pastor Boltzius and his deteriorating health. The Franke Foundation has agreed to oversee the translation of the remaining portions of the journals from the old German script to a machine-readable version, and to publish the journals. Dr. Russell Kleckley will translate the work from modern German into English. This will complete this important work, providing a first-hand glimpse into life at Ebenezer during the colonial period.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Heritage Day Festival. ~ Noble Boykin

For Sale in the Museum Shop

Help defray the costs of hosting the Big Band at Ebenezer by purchasing prints of the original *Strolling Ebenezer* painting. Claudia Christiansen, the artist, will donate the entire \$20, price of prints toward the catering costs for the Big Band when they play at Ebenezer on Oct. 1st!

Please buy your copy from the GSS museum gift shop! Or you can sponsor meals with your donations if you don't choose to buy prints.



Wi-Fi Upgrade and Parsonage Bathrooms

Renovations in Progress

Please take a moment to thank Jerry Groover, GSS



Treasurer, for all the behind-the-scenes projects he does at Ebenezer. He has been instrumental in upgrading the Wi-Fi in and around the buildings and grounds around Ebenezer. Currently, he is updating the restrooms in the parsonage by removing the partitions, replacing old sink faucets, paper holders, light fixtures and adding handrails, elevated toilets, and much more. Take a look the next time you are in the parsonage. ~ Claudia Christiansen



New Ebenezer Family Retreat Center

New Ebenezer Family Retreat and Conference Center, located at 2887 Ebenezer Road in Rincon, is adjacent to the grounds of Jerusalem Lutheran Church and the Georgia Salzburger Society.

Guests who rent a room in one of the quaint cabins may walk across the road to the Heritage Day festivities. Amenities include bed linens and bath towels. The cabins have six bedrooms, each with a private bathroom, and a common full kitchen and living room.



www.newebenezer.org

Rates per night/per person:

\$67 double occupancy room

\$77 single occupancy private room

Book a room for the festival by calling the New Ebenezer Retreat Center office at (912) 754-9242 or learn more by visiting the website.

CEMETERY SERVICE PROJECT

As part of the Heritage Day weekend, there will be a special service project at Jerusalem Lutheran Church cemetery on Saturday, September 2, beginning at 9 a.m.

Trae Zipperer, founder of By Memorial Day, Inc. and popular YouTube content provider, will host a veterans' graves recognition and tombstone cleaning project. Trae has received over five million views on his YouTube channel and has appeared on the daytime talk show, *LIVE with Kelly and Mark*. He is an outspoken advocate for proper tombstone cleaning techniques and has helped to write the cleaning protocol set for the National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

Trae is a descendant of dozens of Georgia Salzburger immigrants and has chosen this project to help honor our ancestors while recognizing the selflessness and sacrifice of the veterans who served.

The graves of the veterans buried at Jerusalem will be recognized, and Trae will do a demonstration showing the correct cleaning methods. All volunteers will then have the opportunity to clean tombstones. Please dress in comfortable work clothes. Because the cleaning protocol set by the National Cemetery Administration will be followed at this event, volunteers do not need to bring their own cleaning supplies. All supplies will be provided.

Please sign up with the GSS office by calling 912-754-7001 or emailing galzbrgr@aol.com if you plan to attend. [YOUTUBE](#) with Trae



Charlotte Crabtree - Guest Speaker

Charlotte M. Crabtree will be the guest speaker for the Heritage Day 2023 program. Her presentation is entitled "And He Took the Cup: The Salzburger Chalice".

Charlotte's passion for silver began at age sixteen and, while shopping for her parents' silver anniversary present, she landed a job polishing silver. After graduating from the University of Georgia, Charlotte's interest in historical pieces and construction led her to Charleston and into partnership with her late husband, Al. They opened the Silver Vault of Charleston in 1995. She holds diplomas from the Gemological Institute of America, is a certified personal property appraiser, and is a qualified expert of antique silver by the South Carolina judicial system. She frequently writes, consults, and speaks throughout the country on the subject of historical silver.

Charlotte's two most recent articles were published in The Georgia Museum of Art magazine published by The University of Georgia Press: "Refined Reflections: Georgia Silver", and "And He Took the Cup: The Salzburger Chalice".

The Salzburger chalice was made of silver and bequeathed to the Salzburger in Ebenezer by George Matthias Kiderlin, a twenty-year-old from Nordlingen who died in October 1741. The silver was sent to Augsburg where it was cast into the chalice, and gilded with two gold ducats also from Kiderlin. The finished product was brought to Ebenezer by Henry Melchior Muhlenberg in October of 1742.



Charlotte Crabtree

Hinely Salzburger Heritage Poster Contest

Topic: The History and Evolution of Communion Vessels

Purpose: To research and learn about the development of communion vessels used by Christians throughout history. Students may choose to focus on any types of communion vessels or may focus solely on the unique Salzburger chalice. Students may also choose to research any types of communion services in their faith.

Hinely Salzburger Heritage Scholarship Poster Contest - 2023

2023 title: "The History and Evolution of Communion Vessels"

Open to all Salzburger Members from Second Grade through College Students.

Purpose: To research and learn about the development of communion vessels used by Christians throughout history. Students may choose to focus on any types of communion vessels or may focus solely on the unique Salzburger chalice. Students may also choose to research any types of communion services in their faith.

Categories:	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place
1. Elementary School	\$200.00	\$75.00	\$50.00
2. Middle School	\$250.00	\$100.00	\$75.00
3. High School	\$300.00	\$125.00	\$100.00
4. College	\$350.00	\$150.00	\$100.00

Qualifications:
Deadline for All Entry Forms: The forms must be received by noon, Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at the GSS office by another team, the administrative assistant. Send them to GSS Poster Contest, 2980 Ebenezer Rd., Rincon, Georgia 31509 or email to galzbrgr@aol.com and put POSTER CONTEST in the title bar. The name and address information should be on the back of the poster contest participant.

Poster Contest Rules: Posters must be submitted on Monday, September 4, 2023 by 9:00 a.m. to the church social hall for judging. Contestants are limited to one poster. A ribbon project board may be used. A copy of the entry form should be attached to the top right corner on the back of the poster.

Criteria: Posters are judged on historical accuracy, educational value, creativity, originality, and neatness. Please provide research documentation to include sources like books, maps, and pictures.

Poster Contest: Participants are encouraged to attend and be present when winners are announced during the 2:00 p.m. meeting in the Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church. Posters should remain on display until 3:00 p.m. at which time they should be picked up. Participants who are unable to attend need to attach a summary statement listing 3 points of interest that they discovered while doing research to create their poster.

Prize Note: In case of a tie in any category, the prize will be equally divided between the winners.

Detach the ENTRY FORM along the dotted line.

Must mail or email the following registration form by noon, Tuesday, August 29, 2023.

To: GSS Poster Contest, 2980 Ebenezer Rd., Rincon, Georgia 31509 or email to galzbrgr@aol.com.

Name: _____ Category: _____ Current Member: YES NO

Address: _____ Grade in School: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Immigrant Ancestor: _____

The Big Band from Halle, Germany

Sunday, October 1, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
2980 Ebenezer Road, Rincon, GA

The Georgia Salzburgers Society and the Teutonic Council of Savannah

Concert is Free ----- **Meal following the Concert: \$22**

A German Heritage Hymn Festival



When: Sunday, September 3, 2023

Where: Jerusalem Lutheran Church

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Who: Organist, **Thomas J. White**, Cantor of Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Savannah
Vocalist, **Abbey Terry** and a quartet of singers
Reader, **Pastor Rick Johnson**, Pastor of Jerusalem Lutheran Church



Join us as we journey through the Lutheran church year, singing and hearing traditional hymns from the Lutheran legacy, as well as offshoots from composers and hymn writers steeped in this rich history. We will journey from Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost, as well as some surprises! ~ Tom White



Market Platz on Heritage Day



Labor Day brings lots of homemade goodies to the Market Platz.

We would appreciate donations for selling in the Market Platz at the Labor Day celebration.

So please, if you can, donate homemade jellies, pickles, baked goods, bread, candies, handmade articles, garden plants, vegetables or fruit, etc.



Please bring items to the museum or to the Market Platz on Labor Day, Sept. 4th. All proceeds go to the Museum Operating Fund.
~ Patsy Zeigler



Atlanta Chapter Happenings

You are invited to attend the September 24th meeting of the Greater Atlanta Chapter of the Georgia Salzburger Society. The program will also be online at the Peachtree Road Lutheran Church Facebook page. It will start at 3 p.m.

Annette McEachin will present a program about her recent trip to the German Salzburger Society meeting in Halle, Germany.

The trip included visits to towns that were places of importance to numerous groups of Salzburger refugees as well as several places that highlighted Martin Luther's life. The picture shows Annette at the church in Wittenberg where Luther nailed 95 theses to the door. ~Annette McEachin



Ribbon Cutting at the Fail (Salzburger) House



Take a new look at the old Fail House at Ebenezer! It's worth the trip to see the preservation improvements recently completed. Many years of donations, teamwork and dedicated GSS board and presidents' efforts are showing the

fabulous results! It's been home to several local families and been moved around more times than most houses you have known, and now it's nearly done with all the major repairs needed to stabilize it for years to come.



The Effingham County Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting and mini family reunion on Saturday, August 12, was a joyful occasion enjoyed by at least 50 people from around the

community and as far away as Atlanta, GA. The feeling of respect for family and proud heritage was contagious among everyone there. Lots of memories were flooding the air and photographers were capturing the smiles and hugs around and inside of the old home place. For a moment in time, one could imagine the lives and deaths that took place inside the walls of that special little house. More details of the history and preservation project will be in the next newsletter. ~ Claudia Christiansen





GSS Memberships Approved

August 12, 2023

Debra Stafford Herrin, GSS Registrar

UP-GRADE TO LIFE

Lori Beard Cook

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Ashley Lauren Werth McDavid Burns

Joseph Evan Burns

Jonah McKenzie Burns

Marie Lynnette Merrell Dawe

Sharon Purvis Delmar

David Mienert Hagins

Julie Teal Mingledorff

Gary Wayne Purvis

Jan Black Tankersley

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Janet Kennedy Caines

Kathy Shearouse DeFord

Emily Eugenia Hogg Felsinger

JoAnn Hogg Graham

Michael Reed Lamb

Mary Juleen Strickland Wilson

Sarah Janet Freyermuth

YOUNG SALZBURGER

Isaac Quinn Felsinger

SUPPLEMENTAL CERTIFICATE

Marie Lynnette Merrell Dawe

IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS

Moses Pengree

IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS

Johann Martin Niess

Johannes Neidlinger

Johannes Neidlinger

George Frederick Rester

John George Haid

Bartholomeus Zant

Jorg Mengersdorff

John George Haid

Peter Gruber

IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS

Johannes Scherraus

Johannes Scherraus

John Adam Treutlen

John Adam Treutlen

Martin Dasher

John Casper Waldhauer

Adam Freyermuth

John Adam Treutlen

Jorg Mengersdorff

*It's not too early to think about Christmas.
Membership in GSS would
make a wonderful Christmas gift.*



For more information: [Membership](#) | [Visit Ebenezer GA](#)

- [Home of the Georgia Salzburger Society \(govisitenebenzer.com\)](http://Home of the Georgia Salzburger Society (govisitenebenzer.com))

Finding My Gruber Roots

My English roots go back to 1613, Jamestown, Virginia, and that was all I knew. Growing up in Pooler Georgia, I had no idea that I had German ancestry. I did not know anyone or anything about Effingham County until I purchased "The Family Tree Maker" in 2009. It was then that my Papa told me we had Salzburger ancestry and I asked, "What's a Salzburger?" After a brief history lesson I said, "Prove it to me." Papa and I were off on a short road trip!

Arriving at Ebenezer, I experienced a feeling of excitement as well as a sense of calm as though I had come home. A wonderfully helpful man, Mr. Roger Stephens, was working in the museum that day. He opened the "Red Book" Vol. II, page 1106, and found my Gruber family. Mr. Stephens then made a copy of page 1106. Our trip to Ebenezer was successful. Papa had proven that I was a Salzburger!

In 2009, at the age of 57, I became a member of The Georgia Salzburger Society. I found my Gruber family and it is one of which I am very proud to be a part. Without GSS I would not know Peter Gruber, his wife Maria, and their son John. Would I know of my Kalcher family? I might possibly know the Gruber and Kalcher names but not their stories. It is through the efforts of the Society that our heritage has been made known to us. Many times I have told others that we, the society, do not own their family genealogy but we do strive to maintain it for future descendants.

Passion and enthusiasm are two things I have for GSS today. I may have learned later in life about my Salzburger heritage but I am doing everything I can to make up for lost time. I have served as GSS Registrar since 2016. I would encourage all of you to support the GSS! ~ Debra Stafford Herrin



Salzburger Research Workshop

On **Saturday, September 2, 2023**, Erika Bragg, GSS Vice President and Research Committee Chair, will present a special Research and Genealogy Workshop at 1:30 p.m. in the Seckinger Board Room of the GSS Parsonage.

Many fascinating discoveries have been uncovered that answer questions about our Georgia Salzburger history. Important documents have been found relating to the following families: Kieffer, Weitman, Dasher, Gruber, Shearouse, and Nease, just to name a few. In three instances, the genealogy recognized by the Society has been updated by the GSS Board.

Workshop attendees will receive pre-printed materials, so all those interested in attending are asked to sign up by emailing the GSS office at gaslzbgr@aol.com by August 31, 2023. ~ Erika Bragg



Heritage Day Weekend Schedule

September 2-4, 2023 Food, Demonstrations, Exhibits and Activities
All Are Welcome - Free Admission



SATURDAY, SEPT. 2ND

- Old Savannah Trolley Tour:
 - 9:45 a.m. at Pirate's House Parking Lot
 - (RSVP lamiller_2@msn.com)
- Veterans' Grave Recognition and Tombstone Cleaning, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery
- Workshop: Research and Genealogy at 1:30 p.m. in Parsonage.
- Kayak Tours: Must RSVP
- Phone: (912) 398-6930.



SUNDAY, SEPT. 3RD

- Sunday Worship Service
- Covered Dish Lunch
- Setup For Festival
- 3:00 p.m. - A German Heritage Hymn Festival
Tom White, Cantor; Abbey Terry, Vocalist
and a quartet of singers including a
Sing-along; Pastor Rick Johnson, Reader



MONDAY, SEPT. 4TH

- Heritage Day Festival 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
- Speaker: Charlotte Crabtree - *"And He Took the Cup: The Salzburger Chalice"*
- Hinely Poster Contest
- Family Tables: Gruber, Heck, Helmly, Hinely, Morgan, Neidlinger, Rahn, Seckinger
- Exhibits, Demonstrations, Foods, Activities and more are listed below.

Arrow Heads and Flint Knapping

Backwater Expeditions

Basket Weaving

BBQ, Bratwurst, Hot Dogs

Beekeeping

Blacksmith

Butter Churning

Chair Caning

Colonial Clothing Display

Colonial Games

Corn Husk Dolls

Corn Shelling and Grinding

Crochet Demonstration

Ebenezer Archaeology Display

Handmade Bags by Sheila

Handmade Christmas Ornaments

Heritage Plants



Hinely Poster Contest

Jams and Jellies

Lemonade Barrel

Local Authors

Market Platz

Peach Fritters

Peanuts

Petting Zoo

Pottery

Registrar

Revolutionary War Reenactors

Soap-Making Display

Survivalist Display

Tractor Hayride

Transport Lists

Weavers Guild of Savannah

Woodworking

