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



The Georgia Salzburger Society

Vol. 35 No. 1

Winter 2024



Landing Day Celebration

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Welcome GSS Members and Friends,

Please make plans to attend the annual Landing Day celebration being held on Saturday, March 9, 2024 at Ebenezer, Georgia.

- **10:00 AM:** Landing Day celebration begins.
- All the buildings will be open for tours until 1:00 PM when the service begins in the Jerusalem Lutheran Church.
- There will be a Colonial period games display set up by reenactor and GSS member, Michael Lamb.
- Rita F. Elliott, Education Coordinator and Research Associate of The LAMAR



Institute, Inc., will set up under the Dan Wilson, Jr. Memorial Pavilion activities related to archaeology. This display gives a glimpse into important archaeological investigative techniques.

- **11:00 AM - 1:00 PM:** The traditional lunch of "good rice soup" or a lunch of hot dogs with chips and dessert will be served in the social hall. *(All proceeds from the sale of the lunches will go to the GSS general operating fund.)*



- **1:00 PM:** The annual thanksgiving and memorial service will be held in the Jerusalem Lutheran Church. The officers and directors will also be sworn in at the conclusion of the business meeting following the service.
- **2:00 PM:** Following the service, this year's featured speaker, **Daniel T. Elliott**, President and Research Associate of LAMAR

Institute, Inc., will give his presentation entitled "What Did Ebenezer Do in the War, Daddy? Or Historical Archaeology Helps Establish Ebenezer's Rightful Place in the American Revolution."

- **3:00 PM:** Please join GSS for a reception in the parsonage for our guest speaker, Dan Elliott, and the incoming and outgoing GSS board members.



If you have any questions, please contact the GSS office via email at gaslzbrgr@aol.com (Please put "Landing Day" in the subject bar) or by calling 912-754-7001. GSS looks forward to seeing you at Ebenezer! ~ Erika Bragg, GSS Vice President/Landing Day Chairman



Founded in 1925

Georgia Salzburger Society

An Affiliate Chapter of the Georgia Historical Society



President's Message

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
Allison Bledsoe Becky Morgan
Diane Holder Joshua Zeigler
Sandra Wingate

To March 2025
Allen Kieffer Anne Miller
Marty Edwards Tom Grovenstein
Virginia Spano

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.



Things are progressing well at the Society. We received a number of generous donations. We received repeated annual donations from the Derst Foundation, Berrien and Nancy Zettler, and Penny Scarpucci. We have also received a \$5,000 stock donation from Michelle Burns, matched by her employer for an additional \$5,000, Goldman Sachs. This was donated by Michelle in memory of her friend and former GSS President, Gregory E. Arnsdorff. A generous \$2,500 donation was received from Krista Seckinger, the daughter of Calvin Seckinger.

Work in the old parsonage has continued, including insulation in the attic which was installed at the end of January. The GAC /GSS Board has donated \$500 for the project.

Dr. Kleckley has finished the first draft of the 1757 fragment of the journal of Pastor Bolzius. That portion covers the months of February and March of 1757. The 1746 first draft was completed in the fall of 2023.

Dr. Hommel completed his transcriptions of all of the journal fragments in December 2023, and that has now been paid for in full by the Society.

Board members have been invited to participate in the second annual Genealogy Fair hosted by the Bulloch County Genealogy and Local History Coordinator, Lillian Wingate. The dates are March 22 and 23. Several workshops dealing with genealogy are also being planned at Ebenezer on various Saturdays throughout the year.

The fence along the highway has now been completed as well.

The Board looks forward to seeing all of you at Landing Day on March 9. There will be a very interesting talk by Dan Elliott, the archaeologist, on the role of Ebenezer in the American Revolution. Dan's wife, Rita Elliott, will have an archaeological display for review as well. ~ Noble Boykin

The Greater Atlanta Chapter of the GSS

INVITATION: FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Phil Officer is a Supervisory Park Ranger at Fort Frederica National Monument where he is in charge of the Interpretation Team. In addition to Fort Frederica National Monument, over the course of his 13 year career with the National Park Service, Phil has worked at Yellowstone National Park, Death Valley National Park, and Harper's Ferry National historical Park. At each location he has worked to connect park visitors to the various resources that each site has to offer, and Fort Frederica National Monument is truly a very special place.

His presentation will center on the setting of the Colony of Georgia and Fort Frederica and its special connection to German and Salzburger settlers, including German settlers at Fort Frederica, Salzburgers at Frederica, Fort Frederica and the establishment of the Colony of Georgia, relationships with Ebenezer, the role of James Oglethorpe and more.



Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024 @ 3:00 PM
Speaker: Phillip Officer
Meeting: Peachtree Road Lutheran Church
3686 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, Georgia

APPROACHING GEORGIA (Continued from page 10)

Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts [borders] of Tyre and Sidon. (Mathew 15:21 KJV).

This journey was Christ's only travel from the land of Israel, leaving Capernaum (likely) and coming to the fringe of Phoenician lands. In his journal for that day, Pastor Bolzius saw a parallel for his congregation:

"Praise be to God who has let us spend this **Reminiscere Sunday** on the water. Again **He has done great things for us**. He refreshed our bodies with sound food and drink; and everyone on the ship was in good spirits because we were lying off the shores of **our dear Georgia** on a beautifully calm sea listening to the birds singing sweetly. It was very edifying for us to come to the border of Georgia on this day, as the Gospel teaches us that Jesus went to the border of the heathen lands after having suffered much discomfort and persecution from His own countrymen."

~ **Detailed Reports**, Urlsperger, Volume I, page 58

- The First Salzburger Transport reached Savannah on the Tuesday, the 12th of March, 1734. This year of 2024 we celebrate the 290th Anniversary of their **LANDING DAY**. The new Georgia settlers made frequent use of the passage from 1 Samuel (and others) which honors God for His doing "**great things for us**": **'Thus far the Lord has helped us.'** From that same comforting Scripture, our exiles were granted to name their new home **Ebenezer**, for He is our **Stone of Help**. ~ JohnRobert Peavy

BACKGROUND FOR OUR MARCH GATHERING — APPROACHING GEORGIA

Following the Winter 1731–1732 expulsion, our congregation, founded in Augsburg in October of 1732, met their two pastors (from Halle) at Rotterdam; the First Transport then endured a three-week passage through the English Channel (2–21 December 1733), the rough weather giving them a foretaste of their nine-week ocean voyage. The ship *Purysburg* left England 8 January 1734. As our exiles near the end of their Atlantic trek, we'll look here at a few translated travel journal entries, and related Scripture.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 1734 (N.S.) The First Transport comes to South Carolina and Georgia					1 <i>Ebenezer in our Hearts</i>	2 
3 <i>we vowed to have a yearly thanksgiving</i>	4 <i>a snow passed to the north of us</i>	5 <i>Carolina sighted</i>	6 <i>contrary winds purify our hearts before landing</i>	7 <i>Pilot from Charles-town leaders met Oglethorpe</i>	8	9 <i>permit us to go to our Georgia</i>
10 Reminisce Savannah River	11 <i>sandbar release of drinking water</i>	12 LANDING DAY Savannah	13  Good Rice Soup	14 <i>Prayer with others, Jews at Savannah's chapel</i>	15 <i>ten-oared boat upriver toward Ebenezer</i>	16
17 located site of (Old) Ebenezer		Julian Calendar - Old Style (O.S.) was still the British calendar until 1752. Germany had adopted the Gregorian Calendar (New Style - N.S.) in 1583. All dates here appear as New Style.				

- [Friday, 1st of March 1734] "As Samuel erected a Pillar which he called **Ebenezer**; so did we also erect in our Hearts an eternal Memorial of the divine Favours."
~ *Journal of Freiherr* (Baron) **Philipp Georg Friedrich von Reck**
Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it **Eben-Ezer**, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord [YHWH] helped vs. 1 Samuel 7:12 KJV 1611
Da nahm Samuel einen Stein und setzte ihn zwischen Mizpa und Sen und hieß ihn **Eben-Ezer** und sprach: Bis hierher hat uns der HERR geholfen. 1 Samuel 7:12 LutherBibel 1545
- [Sunday morning, the 3rd] Pastor Bolzius records that God provided:
"... much edification from His Word and gave us super abundant consolation in our distressing situation. Holy Writ and the comforting verses therein are so blessed for us by our Father in Heaven that we often derive a heavenly pleasure from them and become strengthened in all of our trials of body and soul. ... we will record them [a list of scripture passages, including 1 Samuel 7:12].
~ *Detailed Reports of the Salzburger Emigrants who Settled in America*, edited by Rev. Samuel Urlsperger (the founding pastor of the congregation), Volume I, page 54
- [Evening Prayer Hour, Sunday, the 3rd] "And we vowed to have a **yearly thanksgiving** in His honor, on which we would use our diary to bring back to their memories the trials of the wondrous Divine Guidance."
~ *Detailed Reports*, Urlsperger, Volume I, page 55
- [Sunday the 10th] The Salzburger arrived in Georgia waters on **Reminisce** [*miserationum tuarum*] **Sunday** (Latin "Remember Your Mercies," the Second Sunday in Lent for that year); the Gospel reading for the day is Matthew 15:21-28, which begins:

(Continued on page 11)

10

What's New at Ebenezer!

- The spray foam insulation was installed in the parsonage attic on January 31, 2024.
 - Lance Miller completed the new fence in December of 2023.
 - A grounds cleanup day was held on Saturday, January the 27th. There were only enough volunteers to clean up around the museum.
 - Walkways are still under discussion. Asphalt millings has been suggested.
 - Upcoming Projects:
 - Complete parsonage bathrooms with paint, linoleum and safety rails.
 - Replace Fail House beam on front porch.
 - Add rain diverters and rubber sweeps at the back door of the Fail House.
 - Place wooden benches throughout the grounds.
- ~ Building and Grounds Committee



Gill and Patsy Zeigler and Allen Kieffer cleaning up grounds.

A New Wooden Fence

In the fall of 2022, Apple Productions removed the chain link fence in front of the GSS Museum and parsonage. They gave GSS generous donations to replace the chain link fence. GSS made an agreement with the Jerusalem Lutheran Church to split the cost. Jason Hurst of Life Edge Sawyers rough cut and treated the wood, and in December 2023, Lance Miller installed the wooden fence starting from Jerusalem Lutheran Church yard and extending it to the end of the Ebenezer grounds. The fence will age naturally with little maintenance. Come and take a look at the new fence on Landing Day. ~ Jerry Groover



3



Letter From the Desk of Thomas Govenstein

Greetings, Cousins!

The Loest Research Library continues with Salzburger research, and I would like to tell of a special visitor we had in December. Many of you are familiar with ancestry.com, a popular genealogy focused website. The Salzburger Society and the Loest Research Library was honored to have Dr. Janette Silverman, a Senior Genealogist Research Team Manager at AncestryProGenealogists, visit the library recently to do research.

The research focused on John Caspar Waldhauer and his descendants. John Caspar Waldhauer was born in 1690 and died in Ebenezer on December 3, 1766. John and his family emigrated to the colony of Georgia with what is known as the 4th Paletine group on the 11th transport, the ship "Judith". It arrived in Savannah on January 11, 1746. As of 2003, his descendants for the 11th generation number over 385.

Dr. Silverman spent an afternoon in our research library searching for those often hard to find bits and pieces that help flesh out the story and give depth



and meaning to a family. Dr. Silverman, along with a traveling companion, Nancy Blanton, also enjoyed looking at the collections in the museum and toured the grounds. We look forward to the outcome of Dr. Silverman's research. Along with information she has already provided to us, she will be forwarding her findings to the Georgia Salzburger Society.

I hope this will give you, the readers, an idea of how the Society continues to build on the knowledge gained by serious research from around the country, and around the world. Thank you, Dr. Silverman, for your work and for visiting the Loest Research Library and the town of Ebenezer.

Respectfully:

Tom Grovenstein

Assistant Loest Research Librarian

The Goings-On at the Museum

THANK YOU TO...

- Lisa Repasy and Sandy Gibson for restoring the rocking chair in the Salzburger kitchen.
- The volunteers that cleaned the houses and museum for the Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 2, 2023.
- Lisa Repasy and Jeanie Thomas for serving refreshments for the Christmas Open House that was held Saturday, December 2nd.



- Volunteers Patsy, Debra, Claudia, Anna, and Emily, for decorating the museum, parsonage and the Salzburger (Fail) House for Christmas.
- Patsy and Gill for purchasing shelves and putting them together for the upstairs storage room in the museum.
- All the volunteers who so faithfully give of their time and talent to share the Salzburger heritage with visitors and to maintain the buildings ~ Patsy Zeigler, Curator of the GSS Museum

Landing Day Speaker: Daniel T. Elliott

Daniel T. Elliott is a native Georgian and currently resides with his wife and colleague, Rita Folse Elliott, in Rincon, Georgia. He has more than 47 years as a historical archaeologist with primary focus in the southeastern United States. He is also extensively versed in prehistoric archaeology. Mr. Elliott has expertise in conflict archaeology, remote sensing survey (GPR), settlement patterning, trade and exchange networks, archaic period studies, and 18th and



early 19th century studies. For the past two decades Mr. Elliott has served as President of the LAMAR Institute, Inc., a non-profit research group based in Savannah, Georgia. Dan received the Lifetime Achievement Award in Archaeology in 2014 from the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution. Mr. Elliott has directed major archaeological projects at Ebenezer, as well as other historical sites across Georgia. Mr. Elliott is attempting to be semi-retired, although he continues to work on several LAMAR Institute projects in Georgia and South Carolina. 9



GSS Memberships Approved

February 10 , 2024

Debra Stafford Herrin, GSS Registrar

Life Member

Helen Cone Bowlick
Priscilla Elaine Grant Doster
Matthew Hunter Gnann
Thomas Daniel Mingledorff III
Marvin Samuel Strode

Immigrant Ancestors

Paulus Zieterauer
Conrad Denzler
Johann George Gnann
Jorg Mingersdorf
Johannes Scherraus

Life Membership - Correction From August 12, 2023

Janet Kennedy Caines
Johannes Scherraus
She was mistakenly shown as a Regular Member.

Regular Member

Gary Alan Bowlick
Autumn Lynn Decker Clark
Ree Lee Bragg Exley
Janice Diann Rowe Holcombe
Rachel Diann Holcombe Padgett
Deanna Melissa Caruthers

Paulus Zieterauer
Peter Gruber
Jacob Gnann
Martin Schumann
Martin Schumann
Peter Zipperer

Young Salzburger

Brooke Diann Padgett
Martin Schumann

In Memoriam

Edward Lee Guest 11-27-48 — 1-1-24



Super Museum Sunday

With Antique Toys and Dolls Exhibit

February 11, 2024
In Pictures



Baby Jumping Seat
Late 1890's



Cornhusk Doll



Rev. Donald Hanberry Memorial

You may have noticed that the amphitheater near the banks of Ebenezer Creek has fallen into disrepair. Typically the amphitheater may be used for outdoor classroom space, Easter sunrise services, event space, and for just a quiet place to reflect.

The friends and family of our late Past President of GSS, Rev. Donald Hanberry, have taken an interest in this area to improve it as a memorial to him. The project is currently in the planning stages. We invite you to join in this endeavor to improve the site for use by the society and by the church.

Contributions may be sent to: **Georgia Salzburger Society**
2980 Ebenezer Road, Georgia Highway 275, Rincon, GA 31326
912-754-7001 gaslzbrgr@aol.com

~ Candy Rausch, GAC President



Did You Know!?

The Franke foundation was with us from the beginning of the Salzburger journey to Georgia.



It can take your breath away to actually walk into the archives, tread the same floorboards, see the well worn scuff marks remaining from years of use, and think that Martin Boltzius walked here!

The annual Salzburger Verein met there in June 2023 and toured this magnificent

structure, familiar to Salzburgers long ago and revered today by those who value history and the importance of primary sources when doing research.

~ Claudia Christiansen



6

Georgia Day At Ebenezer

Students and parents from Kingdom Builders and Classical Conversations homeschool co-ops enjoyed learning Georgia history on Tuesday, February 13. Activities included a skit with General Oglethorpe and Mary Musgrove, learning the Georgia pledge, playing Georgia Bingo,



making butter and tasting it on homemade bread, and a hands-on experience with an archaeologist, Jennifer Nash. What a spectacular day for all! A big thank you to the ladies of UDC – Effingham County Hussars Chapter #2285.

~ Patsy Zeigler





Nominating Committee Report, 2024

OFFICERS:

President: Noble Boykin
Vice President: Erika Bragg
Secretary: Gaye Royal
Treasurer: Jerry Groover
Curator: Patsy Zeigler
Assistant Curator: Robert Peavy
Registrar: Debra Herrin
Assistant Registrar: Sandra Wingate
LRL Librarian: Dylan Mulligan
LRL Assistant Librarian: Tom Grovenstein
Parliamentarian: Charlie Arnsdorff
Chaplain: Pastor Richard Johnson
Past President: Claudia Christiansen
Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Nash

DIRECTORS: To Serve Through 2027

Ronnie Allen
Rebecca Heidt
Diane Holder
Sandra Wingate
Joshua Zeigler

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Anne Miller - Chairman
Marty Edwards
Tom Grovenstein
Allen Kieffer
Virginia Spano

GSS Landing Day

Saturday, March 9, 2024

In Ebenezer Schedule



10:00 AM: Meet & Greet, Tour, Research, Shop, Activities



Open: All buildings



Museum and Shoppe



Parsonage and Jail House



Loest Research Library



Activities



Rita F. Elliott: Activities related to archaeology



Michael Lamb: Colonial period games display



11:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Lunch in the Social Hall



"Good Rice Soup"



Hot dogs with chips & dessert



1:00 PM: In the Jerusalem Lutheran Church



Thanksgiving service



Election of board members and officers



Speaker: Daniel T. Elliott



Program: *"What Did Ebenezer Do in the War, Daddy? Or Historical Archaeology Helps Establish Ebenezer's Rightful Place in the American Revolution."*



3:00 Reception in the parsonage