



CHS *Update*

Official Newsletter of the Coastal Heritage Society

Exec. Director, Scott W. Smith

President, James M. Poole III

Vol. 4 Year 2004

Battle of Savannah 225th Anniversary



OCTOBER 9, 1779

The Coastal Heritage Society is partnering with the City of Savannah and other local agencies and media outlets to commemorate one of the bloodiest hours of the American Revolution. We've organized a 4-part Battle of Savannah Lecture Series, cosponsored by the City of Savannah Cultural Affairs Department and Savannah Morning News, highlighting the role each of the major combatants played in the battle. The last lecture in the series, Dr. Charles Elmore's look at the Haitian and African-American troops who fought in Savannah, will be held Thursday, October 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Savannah History Museum Theatre. Light refreshments will be served in the lobby beginning at 6:30 p.m. On Saturday, October 9th at 7:30 a.m., we will hold a special ceremony on the ground where the battle took place. You are invited to join historical reenactors and other Society members in the Savannah History Museum parking lot at 7:00 a.m. We will walk to the battlefield site together, then march up the hill towards the future site of the Spring Hill Redoubt. As a bagpipe sounds, the reenactors will fire volleys in honor of the hundreds of men killed and wounded here 225 years ago. Wreaths will be provided by patriotic organizations and

placed on the battlefield by reenactors.

Later that day near the Savannah International Airport, hundreds of reenactors will take part in a major reenactment of the Battle of Savannah. This city- and CHS-sponsored event is being organized by the Vaquer Firm. The reenactors will present the battle Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday at 1:00 p.m. For more information, call 912.651.6840 or visit www.savannah225th.org. The reenactor camp and battlefield is located off Georgia exit 104 on I-95. There will be signs posted to help you find the way.



A Revolutionary War assault is depicted by military illustrator Charles McBarron

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Cannons & Cuisine Rescheduled

The Cannons & Cuisine Event at Old Fort Jackson was postponed due to the threat of severe weather on Labor Day weekend. We've rescheduled the event for **Saturday, November 6th, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Old Fort Jackson.**

The event is an annual fundraiser for improvements to Old Fort Jackson, a National Historic Landmark and Georgia's oldest standing brick fortification. It features a barbeque and shrimp dinner, plus an auction of items donated by local merchants and individuals. This year's auction includes two round-trip domestic tickets anywhere AirTran Airlines flies. There will be historic entertainment, cannon firing, and soldiers in Civil War uniforms.

Admission is \$15 for adults and \$10 for students, with kids 6 and under free. There is a discount for Coastal Heritage Society members: adults \$12, students \$8, kids still free.

Tornado, Cooking Show Take Center Stage at Old Fort Jackson

Mother Nature and chef/owner Paula Deen of the Lady & Sons both made big appearances at Old Fort Jackson late this summer - and both brought TV cameras in their wake.

A big funnel cloud appeared beside the fort office building on Monday morning, September 6th, just before lunch.

Several fort employees and tourists were standing outside when they saw the twister come roaring through the woods. The group took cover in the buildings near the entrance to the property. The twister tore roofing shingles off a garage shed, blew out window glass in the same building, and blew down



WTOC-TV's Skycam captures the tornado at Old Fort Jackson

trees and power lines. It then crossed the Savannah River. WTOC-TV caught the huge funnel cloud on its tower cam mounted atop the Westin Hotel, and several television news crews came by the fort to shoot video and interviews with eyewitnesses.

It was not Mother Nature, but a lady named Paula Deen who brought TV cameras back to the fort on Tuesday, September 14th. Deen, owner of the Lady & Sons restaurant in downtown Savannah, shot an episode of her Food Network cooking show at the fort. There is no word from the producers yet as to when the program will air.

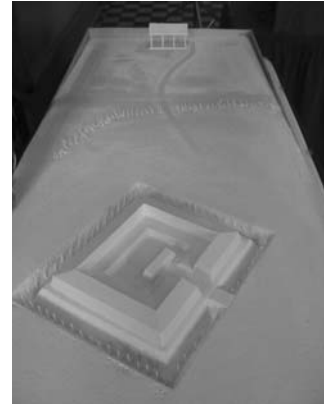


Old Fort Jackson interpreter John Roth & cooking show host Paula Deen

REMEDIATION ENDS AT BATTLEFIELD PARK SITE

City of Savannah contract crews have completed their work at the Battlefield Park site, clearing the way for the eventual construction of the Spring Hill Redoubt, an earthen fortification representative of the one at the heart of the Battle of Savannah in 1779. The city had to remove lead and arsenic contamination from the 9.5 acres of land purchased from Norfolk Southern Railway in December 2003.

At right is pictured a model of the planned Spring Hill Redoubt.



JENKINS HIGH SCHOOL KEY CLUB MAKES WHITE RIBBONS



Jenkins High School Key Club President Hillary Simmons assembles a white ribbon.

Members of the Jenkins High School Key Club helped the Society out this past quarter by assembling roughly 5,000 white ribbons. The ribbons were handed out to folks at the Battle of Savannah Lecture Series and other Society events, and even went into more than 2,000 City of Savannah paychecks. The white ribbon is reminiscent of the white cockades worn by Allied soldiers to identify each other during the Battle of Savannah. The Coastal Society encourages people to wear the ribbons every October to raise awareness of the anniversary of the battle and our efforts to develop Battlefield Park. Mayor Otis Johnson will declare October 3-10 to be White Ribbon Week in Savannah.



A Jenkins High School Key Club member holds a bag of 500 white ribbons the students assembled.

Tying Together the Threads of History

Chatham County's own Eric Johnson, the Georgia State Senate President Pro Tem, joined Mayor Otis Johnson and CHS President Jim Poole for a special event at the Roundhouse Railroad Museum on Monday, September 20th. As members of the State Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism, Department of Economic Development officials, local media, CHS board members, city leaders, and Chamber of Commerce representatives looked on, Senator Johnson hammered a gold spike into a railroad tie. The act symbolically tied Savannah's railroad and Revolutionary War pasts together, and served as a special thank-you to state legislators for more than \$12 million in support for the Battlefield Park project over the past few years. Old Fort Jackson staff members James Burns and John Roth attended the ceremony in Revolutionary War uniform. Roundhouse staff members Tommy Grooms and Lou Sommers took part as well, with Tommy in a Central of Georgia conductor's uniform and Lou behind the controls of the #2715 diesel engine.



Savannah Mayor Otis Johnson, CHS President Jim Poole, and State Senate President Pro Tem Eric Johnson enjoy lunch in the Tender Frame Shop at the Roundhouse.



As Exec. Dir. Scott Smith looks on, CHS President Jim Poole presents a framed print to State Senate President Pro Tem Eric Johnson. Senator Johnson and other state leaders in attendance also received engraved trowels.



State Senate President Pro Tem Eric Johnson drives a gold spike into a railroad tie, tying together Battlefield Park's Revolutionary War and Railroad history.

Georgia Ports Authority Donates \$10,000 for Mary Musgrove Exhibit

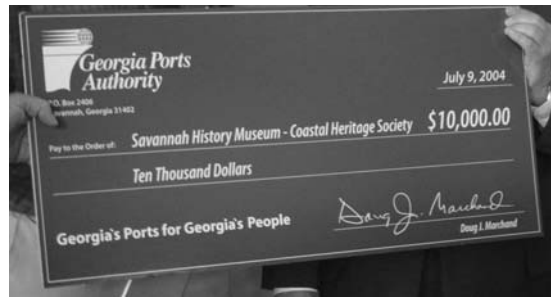
Generations of Georgians will be able to see artifacts from the Peach State's earliest colonial days, thanks to a recent donation from the Georgia Ports Authority.

On Friday, July 9th, GPA Executive Director Doug Marchand presented the Coastal Heritage Society with a \$10,000 check. The money will be used to create a new exhibit to display artifacts from the Mary Musgrove site, which was discovered on port property in 2002. The site is the 1730s trading post of Mary Musgrove, one of the most influential women in Georgia's colonial history. Archaeologists discovered artifacts from the 1730s through mid-1800s at the site. CHS Executive Director Scott Smith and Vice President Walter Wright, Collections & Exhibits Co-Chairman, accepted the check from the Ports Authority.

Artifacts are currently being processed and preserved, and the final archaeological report upon which this exhibit will be based is still being written.



CHS Exec. Dir. Scott Smith, GPA Director Doug Marchand, and CHS Vice President of Membership Growth Walter Wright



2004 Membership Meeting



CHS Members Nita & Don Cogdell and Henry Kennedy enjoy the 2004 Membership Meeting

This year's Membership Meeting on July 27th was a treat for everyone who attended. Members caught up with each other as they enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, then enjoyed a powerpoint presentation on all the Society's been doing over the past year. Society Director Scott Smith and President Jim Poole honored state legislators and others who helped make our growth possible this year. Re-elected trustees Murray Barnard, Don Cogdell, Henry Kennedy, Stan Konter, Snake Eyes, and Nate Stone took their oaths of office. Another highlight of the evening was a first look at the new exhibit "Growing Up Savannah Style" in the Savannah History Museum gallery. The museum's curatorial staff has assembled some of the best pieces from our collection of more than 3,000 dresses, hats, pins, infants' gowns, and other articles of historical fashion to provide this new exhibit.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Mr. David Dickey
Dr. Bil Ragan
Allen County Public Library of Fort Wayne, Indiana
Mr. & Mrs. Alton Hart
Dr. & Mrs. F. Willson Daily
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur W. Howe
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Brodd
Mr. Alvin W. Neely
Dr. Richard Schugar, O.D.
Ms. Virginia Rynk
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ard-Kelly
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Welch, III
Mr. & Mrs. John Ingram
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Mangin
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Ferris
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Phillips
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Frank DeBolt
Mr. W. Park Callahan
Mr. & Mrs. Marion Cooper
Mr. & Mrs. George Lowry
Dr. & Mrs. William Osborne
Mr. & Mrs. John Simpson
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Buckner
Ms. Frances Deal
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Keber
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Kinnamon
Mrs. Sally Little
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Melton
Ms. Dorothy Owens - Dot Owens Realty
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Rodgers
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Sullivan, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Murray Barnard
Ms. Helen Cheely

Mr. James Dewberry-Rose of Sharon
Mr. William Fleetwood, Jr.
Haitian American Historical Society
Mr. David O'Leary
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Pickels
Mr. Stephen Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Leopold Adler
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Bele
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Muller
Mr. William Raffel
Ms. Ardis Wood
Mr. Larry Latham
Mr. & Mrs. James Gilliard
Ms. Dolly Chisholm
Mr. & Mrs. Mills Morrison, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. William Stephens
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Alexander
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Stuckey
Ms. Louise Osborne
Colonel (R) Richard Stewart
Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Haney
Ms. Phyllis Farrell
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Middleton
Mr. Julius A. Fine
Mr. Fred Griswold
Mr. & Mrs. A.J. Lungwitz

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Batchelor
Mr. & Mrs. John McCann
Mr. & Mrs. Al Bachor
Mr. Michael Jordan
Mr. Bryan J. Whitley
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lindell
Mr. & Mrs. Christian Sottile
Mr. G. Bellaran & Ms. K. Oniell
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Jepson

SHOULD YOU HAVE QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE
FOLLOWING FOR HELP.

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Michael Jordan
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651-6849 Pam Arnott

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Site Manager Karen Anderson

OLD FORT JACKSON
232-3945
Site Manager John Guss

SAVANNAH HISTORY MUSEUM
651-6825
Manager Earline Woods
Curator Lydia Moreton

WHISTLESTOP CAFE
651-3656
Co-Managers Sheryl Blackburn
Evelyn Marshall

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