

Georgia Association of Historians Newsletter



VOLUME XXXI

Spring 2010

2011 Meeting Set in Savannah February 24-26

The Local Arrangements Committee (Mike Price, Chris Hendricks, Barbara Fertig, and Ella Howard) reports the following outline of the 2011 meeting, which will be headquartered at the **Savannah DeSoto Hilton**.

On Thursday, before the official beginning of the conference, members will be welcomed to an event to be held at the historic **Davenport House**; this is still in the planning phase.

Meeting rooms will be provided with internet connections, and screens and projectors will be available. (If you will be a presenter, please be sure to let Mike Price Michael.Price@armstrong.edu know in advance about your needs in this regard.)

After the sessions on Friday, there will be a light wine and cheese reception at the hotel's **Harborview rooftop banquet room** before reconvening at the **Cotton Exchange** for the lecture. The Exchange is in the heart of the restaurant and bar district so everyone can strike out on their own afterward for dinner.

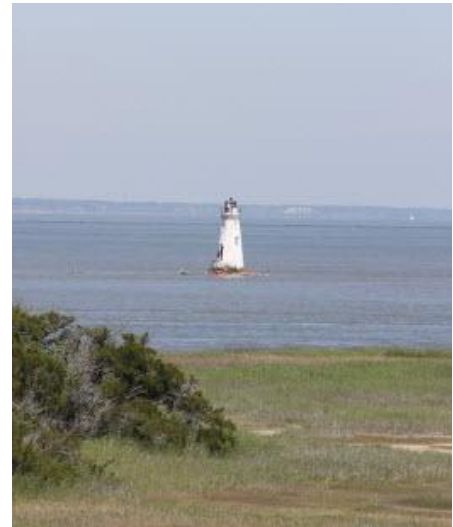
Saturday's luncheon and business meeting will include a speaker. It will also be in the Harborview banquet room which has a panoramic view of Savannah. The luncheon will be a backyard BBQ Buffet; with a vegetarian option.

Immediately after the Saturday meeting, Chris Hendricks of AASU's history department will host a free walking tour of **Savannah's historic squares**; the committee has also made arrangements for a tour of the **Gordon/Low house** near the hotel, which will be led by one of our graduate students (Jeb Bush) who is on their staff.

Accommodations at the Savannah DeSoto Hilton are \$135 per night with a reservation cutoff date of Monday, January 24, 2011. ❖

Keep us informed!

Gene Hatfield recently told us that the “distinguished and much esteemed historian, Glen Eskew, [gave] an entertaining and informative interview on Johnny Mercer carried by NPR station WABE. I was impressed not only by the insights offered, but also Dr. Eskew's radio voice, presence, and articulation.” You too could let us know what your colleagues are up to—particularly if they are too modest to report their own doings to the *Newsletter*. Contact us at KathrynKemp@clayton.edu. ❖



Cockspur Light

Photo: R. Brackett

What we're up to . . .

Paul Hudson, Georgia Perimeter College, Interviewed by the History Channel

One of the side benefits of my dissertation research on Thornwell Jacobs, who refounded Oglethorpe University at its present location, is that he was also father of the modern time capsule. Inspired by the pyramids, he originated the Crypt of Civilization, a chamber sealed in 1940 and not to be opened until 8113 AD.

Though academics are ambivalent about time capsules, media types love them as “soft topics,” and the Crypt has been very good to me! I’m fortunate to have been interviewed by the *New York Times*, *Time* and *Newsweek*. My favorite piece was a 20-minute segment with Scott Simon, on National Public Radio for Weekend Edition. (He showed up in a black leather jacket.)

In January, I was on a show with a wild premise, “Life after People,” on the History Channel. I’ve gotten to know what to expect for media interviews: keep it light with short responses and, like teaching, humor always helps. For TV, wear solid colors (no busy patterns) and dress casual. I always choose gum first for dry mouth and never decline make-up. And relax, because producers always edit for something that sounds profound! ❖

Civil War Symposium at Kennesaw

Kennesaw State University’s Center for the Study of the Civil War Era presented its 7th Annual Symposium on New Interpretations of the American Civil War. A dozen prominent scholars in the field participated in the three-day event in March. The theme was “Alternative Southern Realities: African Americans and the American Civil War--Freedom, Memory, Identity.” The Center’s web site states that its mission “is to become a leading repository of resources that will enable scholars, students, and enthusiasts to study the role that Georgia and the historic South played in the nation’s greatest calamity. . . . a period still studied closely and enthusiastically by citizens around the country and beyond, not only for its importance to the past but also for its relevance to the present and future.” ❖

Inscoe Recieves Lothar Tresp Award

The University of Georgia Honors Program has awarded John Inscoe the Lothar Tresp Award for Outstanding Honors Professor. The award, dedicated to Lothar Tresp, former Honors Program Director, recognizes superior teaching and dedication to Honors students. Inscoe is the author of numerous articles and books; *Race, War, and Remembrance in the Appalachian South* was published in 2008. A book on southern autobiography and memoir is in preparation. ❖

Mims to Aid in Records Update Project.

Dr. Julian L. Mims Georgia Perimeter College has been invited to participate in the National Historic Publications and Records Commission-funded update of publications for the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA). He also has been named to the current edition of Marquis' *Who's Who in America*. ❖

Fred van Hartesveldt publishes . . .

“My Days of Labor:’ Georgia’s Florence Johnson Hunt, An African American of Impressive Accomplishments,” in *Varieties of Women's Experiences: Portraits of Southern Women in the Post-Civil War Century*, Ed. by Larry E. Rivers and Canter Brown (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2009);

“The Doctors and the ‘Flu’: The British Medical Profession’s Response to the 1918-1919 Pandemic of Influenza,” *International Social Science Review* (forthcoming, Summer, 2010).

“The First Horseman: Epidemic Disease and History,” *Choice*, Vol. 46 (June, 2009): 1841-50. (Corrected by Kay Kemp) ❖

Make The Most of Your Trip to Savannah

By Mike Price

The local arrangements committee for the upcoming GAH annual meeting is looking forward to welcoming the GAH membership to Savannah. In addition to a walking tour of the historic squares and tour of the Juliette Gordon Low House scheduled for Saturday, we encourage everyone to strike out on foot from the DeSoto Hilton Hotel and explore the sundry delights to be found in the historic district. We also invite those who are contemplating making a weekend out of the conference to range more widely. Whether one chooses to strike out eastward for Bonaventure Cemetery, Old Fort Jackson, Fort Pulaski, and Tybee Island, or westward to I95 and the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum, or take a leisurely stroll to some of our historic houses, museums, cemeteries, and churches, Savannah has much to offer the historically minded. An excellent visitor's guide can be found at www.savannahvisit.com.



Cannon demonstration at Fort Pulaski

Photo: R. Brackett

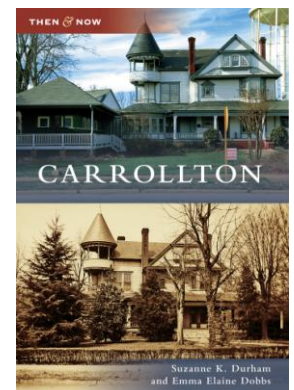
Hungry? Set out for Broughton Street, over to City Market, or down to River Street, where there are also a host of excellent restaurants--all within easy walking distance of the conference hotel and the Cotton Exchange where we have scheduled Friday night's keynote address. Afterward, Savannah's nightlife beckons in City Market and along River Street. The more refined among the membership might take the free ferry across the Savannah River to the Westin hotel on Hutchinson Island or visit the rooftop lounge at the new Bohemian Hotel on Bay Street for a cocktail; the more adventurous might stop by Club One or the Live Wire Music Hall. Come early or stay late. **You'll love our city!** ❖

Record Attendance at 2010 Decatur Meeting

Over 100 Georgia Historians and their guests attended the February GAH meeting in Decatur. The organization now numbers 132 members, including almost 20 Life Members. ❖

Durham and Dobbs publish new book on Carrollton . . .

A pictorial history of Carrollton, Georgia, has recently been published by University of West Georgia archivist **Suzanne K. Durham** and 2009 UWG grad Emma Elaine Dobbs. The book is part of Arcadia Publishing's "Then and Now" series comparing old photographs of the city's buildings, houses, and streetscapes with modern photos. The vintage photos come from the Benjamin Long Collection held by UWG Special Collections. Many of the photos are featured on the Digital Library of Georgia. For more information, visit www.Arcadiapublishing.com. ❖



Columbus State's first Distance Learning Conference to be held September 23-24, 2010.

Conference participants will include those teaching in the distance learning arena, academics and researchers with an interest in distance learning, and those interested in distance learning and the use of technology in education. The theme of the conference is Distance Learning: The “Now” Frontier. ❖

Kaye Minchew to Testify Before Congress

GAH member Kaye Minchew, Executive Director of the Troup County Historical Society and Archives, testified before Congress on June 9th, about the need for more funding for Archives. She represented the National Association of Government Archivists & Records Administrators, on whose Board she has served for many years.



Don't forget to save the date!

2011 GAH Conference

Feb. 24-26

Savannah, Georgia

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