



The Heritage Observer

News from
The Heritage Library

Bringing the Past to Life

Vol. 10, No. 1

January 2018

Heritage Library Has Moved

Our wonderful volunteers have been very busy. On December 8 we closed our old location and moved to the Professional Building, Suite 100, at #2 Corpus Christi.

We happily celebrated the December holidays, somehow finding time in our hectic schedule. Hope all of you had a great December Holiday Season too.

Now our “move helpers” are busy putting books, maps, pictures and everything else in place in our new home so we’ll be ready for our January 15 opening.

Not only has our location changed, we have also made some staff changes. Bob Blot has replaced Diana Luellen as our Tuesday Librarian. Diana is moving off Island. Many thanks to her for the countless hours she has given to the Library and we hope to see her back as a volunteer.



#2 Corpus Christi - The Professional Building, Suite 100

Susan Dobbs is working with Nancy Burke, learning the duties of Head Librarian which she will assume when Nancy resigns from the position. Nancy will continue to be the Friday Librarian.

Come see our new office in January – but not before the 15th. The map below will help you find the Professional Building at #2 Corpus Christi, off New Orleans Road.



Officers:

Executive Director: Linda T. Piekut
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Get Daily Genealogy Tips in Your Inbox



By Carol Clemens

Do you need a bit of inspiration to continue searching for your ancestors? Would you like some good search techniques to help you expand your family history? An easy way to get both inspiration and tips is to subscribe to some genealogy email lists. One great source is a free subscription

to Michael John Neill's tips. Neill is a noted genealogist and a Board Member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. He offers several different daily emails that provide tips and "points to ponder." Each is simple and easy to follow with an example. Three of his popular email messages:

- **Rootdig.com** presents Michael's thoughts, research problems, and suggestions <http://rootdig.genealogytipoftheday.com/>
- **Genealogy Tip of the Day** – one genealogy research tip every day – short and to the point. <http://genealogytipoftheday.com/>
- **Genealogy Search Tip** – websites and the occasional online research tip – short and to the point. <http://searchtip.genealogytipoftheday.com/>

Examples include a "Genealogy Tip of the Day" suggesting searching city directories to learn about your ancestor's employer. Another tip suggested ways to properly identify photos so that they make sense to others. "Root Dig" recently posted help on understanding DNA results while a "Genealogy Search Tip" offered ideas on how to date old postcards.

To subscribe, visit a site by clicking on the appropriate link. Then, at the top of

the page, you will find a link to subscribe. Click and add to your email.

These emails have been useful to me. I have not found them to generate spam or junk messages. However, depending on your provider and security settings, you may have to "allow" them to come through the first time. Give them a try, and remember that you can always unsubscribe.

Hope you find these tips useful in your research.

Donations

IN MEMORY OF:

Walter H Carter - from:
 James and Tammi Berl
 Walter and Carol Siller
 Deborah and Rachel Molinari

Robert Smith - from:
 Della R. Helvey
 Leon M. Liverett, MD
 Doris M. Dixon
 C. Lee Zwally

Librarian's Corner

Reviews of "They Served"

Heritage Library's first original publication, "They Served," is attracting attention. The National Genealogical Society Magazine included it in the July-September 2017 issue's list of publications by Society members with a short synopsis of the book. A full review is expected in an upcoming issue of their Quarterly.



By Nancy Burke
Head Librarian

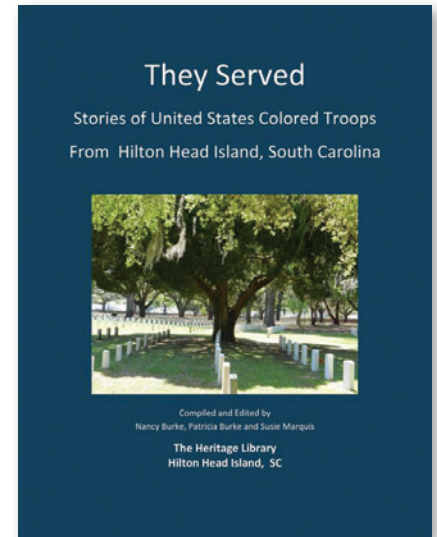
The Hilton Head Monthly for Nov. 2017 published a lengthy article about the book with statements from co-authors Nancy Burke and Patricia Burke on the purpose of book and the genealogical and personal details it makes available. There are also

comments from Murray Christopher. Murray, who is a volunteer at the Library, is also a Native Islander and a descendant of Sancho Christopher, a soldier in the 21st Regiment, USCT, whose story is presented in the book. Murray notes that the book makes avail-

able important information that was "locked away" and not taught in school when he was a student. "It was as if the Civil War was fought between Northern whites and Southern whites," he said.

Also, the Emily Geiger Chapter of the DAR, of which Nancy Burke and Patricia Burke are members, has

mentioned the book in its Nov. 1, 2017 newsletter as depicting an important part of local history.



History Department

The History Department is now offering over 20 different programs on our local history. One of the programs covers the Pirates of the Lowcountry. The Golden Age of Piracy lasted from 1650-1730 and our presentation looks at the lives of seven pirates who operated in the waters off Hilton Head Island. These include Blackbeard and Stede Bonnet, along with two female pirates, Mary Read and Anne Bonny. The book, *The History of Beaufort County: 1514-1861*, reports that from Havana and St. Augustine there were seven heavily armed Spanish pirates



By Lou Benfante
Board President &
History Dept. Co-Chair

and privateers operating in South Carolina.

The pirates mainly operated in the Caribbean, but the South Carolina coast was perfect for pirate ships as well. Here there were wide, sloping beaches, many half-hidden rivers and inlets, a wide tide range, no people, and plenty of wild animals for food.

The pirates were after the gold and other riches on the ships sailing back to Spain, and the waters around Hilton Head were a stopping off point for the ships before returning to Spain.

Do you know why our intercoastal waterway is called Skull Creek? Legend has it that the pirates who roamed the waters around Hilton Head frequently took shelter there, perhaps to dispose of skulls. Who knows?

We don't know for sure, but on old maps of Hilton Head there is a place called "Careening Point" where we think that the pirates careened, or gathered, to plan new ventures.

If you would like to learn more about this subject, plan to attend our program which will be held at the Heritage Library on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 10:30 am at our new location, the Professional Building, Suite 100, #2 Corpus Christi.

Heritage Happenings

Reservations Required

843-686-6560 or www.heritage.lib.org

ANCESTRY CLASSES

\$10 members • \$15 non-members

Wednesdays at the Library
1:30-3:30pm

Jan 24 & 31 - Starting Family Research. Two-session class:
\$25 members • \$35 non-members

Feb 7 - Ancestry.com for Beginners

Feb 14 - Family Tree Maker 2017 Is Here So Get With The Program

Feb 21 - Italian Ancestry

Feb 28 - Tips & Tricks for Better Searching

Mar 7 - Irish Genealogy Essentials

HISTORY PROGRAMS

\$10 per person

Tuesdays at the Library • 10:30am

Jan 30 - Historic Sites

Feb 6 - Santa Elena

Feb 13 - Pirates

Feb 20 - HHI in the Civil War

Feb 27 - Mitchelville

Mar 6 - Gullah Culture

Mar 13 - Cemeteries

Mar 20 - Sea Pines

Mar 27 - Role of Women Part 1

Apr 3 - Role of Women Part 2

Apr 10 - Pedro Menendez
"The Last Crusader"

Apr 17 - Native Americans Part 1

Apr 24 - Native Americans Part 2

TOURS

Tours will resume in February

Bike

Wednesdays at 10am

Ft. Mitchel

Thursdays at 10am

Zion Chapel of Ease Cemetery

Fridays at 10am

SPECIAL EVENT

February 22

Battle of Port Royal

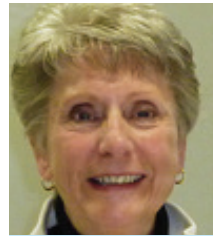
Presented by Lou Benfante

Wexford Country Club at 4:00pm

Zion Update

You will soon see lots of activity at the Zion Cemetery. With the generous donation from the Church Mouse Boutique Thrift Shop and the successful Historic Zion Forum held in October, the Heritage Library is now able to begin the restoration of the Baynard Mausoleum. We have chosen Hillary King from the engineering firm 4SE in Charleston to be our project manager, and bids are out to four companies. We hope construction will begin early in 2018.

Thank you to all who have supported this



By Linda Piekut
Executive Director

project from the beginning, but we are not done. This is just Phase I of the total History Park concept which includes restored fencing around the mausoleum and the Kirk plot, perimeter fencing, exposed archaeological elements, and, eventually, a replica of the original church that stood on the property.

We have raised over \$200,000 in cash and in-kind donations, and are halfway to our goal of \$440,000. Please keep us in your donation thoughts and help us successfully complete this project.

In Remembrance OF ROBERT PEMBERTON SMITH 1919-2017

Robert Smith was born in Virginia, educated at Virginia Military Institute, and became a naval architect. His business career included vice president of a large international firm providing engineering services for heavy industry.

Robert and his wife, Betty Jane, moved to Hilton Head Island in 1990 after raising their family in Philadelphia. The couple volunteered for many years at the Heritage Library working in various capacities. Robert was elected President of the Heritage Library Foundation in 2009. Robert had a dream to turn the Zion Cemetery into a History Park, and to that end he donated the lead gift to launch our Capital Campaign in 2015. His work continues in the Library's plans to bring his vision to reality.

Robert was named Volunteer of the Year



in 2004, recognized for his outstanding achievement in researching, compiling, and producing, "How to Use Our Library Resources; A Librarian's Resource and Training Book." The work was a complete set of instructions and guides designed to make The Heritage Library's collections easier to use and thus more likely to produce meaningful results

for both the experienced researcher and those patrons just beginning to explore their family's ancestry. In 2011 Robert was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for his ongoing service to the Library.

Robert and Betty Jane worked for many years contributing to the success of the Library and his work will continue to benefit the Library in the future. We are very grateful to have known Robert.

ZION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS

The Heritage Library has launched this capital campaign to preserve the Baynard Mausoleum and create an outdoor learning center where programs for adults and children will be held. The following donors are helping to achieve these goals.



If you wish to make a contribution, send your check marked "Zion Fund" to Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, Post Office Box 23019, Hilton Head Island, SC 29925.

\$20,000+ Patriots

The Church Mouse Boutique Thrift Shop
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith

\$5,000 - \$9,999 Founders

Dr. George Mosse Chapter NSSAR
National Park Service / South Carolina Department of Archives and History
Pam and David Schofield
VanLandingham Rotary Club
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Webb

\$10,000 - \$19,999 Preservationists

Dori M. Dixon
Carol and Ward Mathis

\$1,000-\$4,999 Historians

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The Bargain Box of Hilton Head Island
Lou Benfante and Laurette Doscher
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Burke
Coastal Plains Insurance
Pam and Peter Cooper
Lisa and Don Drakeman

Hargray Communications
The Heritage Library
Gretchen and Thomas D. Johns
Annie and Kelly Kellenberger
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lennox
MAJ Enterprises
Col. Dana Marsh

Tom and Peggy Martin
National Society Sons & Daughters of the Pilgrims
Linda and David Piekut
Carolyn and James Robinson
South Carolina Humanities
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Thomas

\$500 - \$999 Builders

American Revolutionary Roundtable-SC
Paul and Martha Anthony
The Baer Family
Maggie and Larry Burke
Ezra and Audrey Callahan
Mary Ann and Atlee Compher
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Honor Our Heroes Foundation
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Low Country Questers
The Lowrey Family
Gail and Hugh O'Kane

Mayor and Mrs. Tom Peebles
RMC Resort Management
Betty and Barry Riordan
The SC Archaeology Society-Hilton Head Branch
The Stokes Family
Takacs Family
Gail and Andy Twisdale

\$25 - \$499 Militiamen

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Grace and William Tiernay
Gail Wargo
Iva Roberts Welton
Barbara Wiles
William Hilton Chapter, NSDAR
Womens Club of Sea Pines
Chuck Yahres

The Stoney Family's Connection to England's Great Bess



By Beth Egan O-Keefe

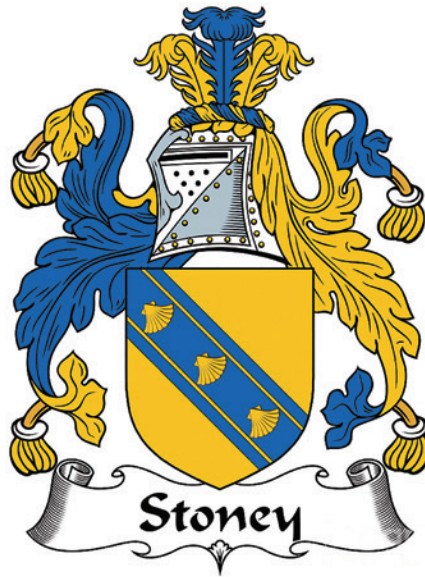
John (Captain Jack) Stoney, one of Hilton Head Island's earliest plantation owners, one of the

founders of the Zion Chapel of Ease, and the builder of the Braddock Plantation house, has a family connection to Queen Elizabeth I of England. Queen Elizabeth was the daughter of Anne Boleyn and King Henry VIII and the connection comes through Elizabeth's mother, Anne Boleyn.

The Butlers, or Le Botelers, came to Ireland following Strongbow's invasion of Ireland in 1169. That invasion, sanctioned by King Henry II of "Lion in Winter" fame, was just about a hundred years after the successful Norman invasion of England by William the Conqueror. The originator of the Butler family was Theobald Walter. He was called "Butler" because he was the official chief butler of Prince John, later King John of Magna Carta fame. Butler was the official importer of all wine into Ireland and received a portion of the wine's value.

The Butlers became one of the most prominent families in Ireland. They owned tremendous tracts of land and were the Earls of Ormond(e), retaining that title for centuries. The center of their power was Kilkenny Castle in Kilkenny City, Ireland. The ancestral home of the Butlers, Kilkenny Castle, has been restored and is open to the public.

Anne Boleyn's father was Thomas Boleyn, a favorite of Henry VIII who gave him the Earldoms of Wiltshire and



Oronde. Thomas Boleyn was the son of Lady Margaret Butler, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Butler, 7th Earl of Ormonde.

The Stoneys were successful landowners in Ireland, but not on the level of the Ormondes (Butlers). The Stoneys had emigrated to Ireland sometime after 1688 from Yorkshire, England, acquiring multiple properties in Tipperary.

About 1816 the Ormondes sold Arran Hill to the Stoneys. Arran Hill acquired its name from the title, Earl of Arran, one of the Butler titles. It seems to have been the home of Thomas Stoney,

born in 1748, son of George and Eliza Johnston Stoney. The son of this Thomas, Richard Falkiner Stoney, married Jane Butler. Even though the Stoneys were doing well, they seemed to have especially valued the Butler connection. Richard and Jane's four sons used Butler as a middle name or hyphenated their name as "Butler-Stoney." The family was still using the name "Butler-Stoney" until the twentieth century.

Captain Jack, the patriarch of the American Stoneys, born in 1749 in Knockshogowna, Tipperary, Ireland, may have been the son of George and Eliza Johnston Stoney and the younger brother of Thomas of Arran Hill. He married Elizabeth Caulfield in Ireland in 1771. By 1774 or 1775, Elizabeth and Captain Jack, in their early twenties, sailed to Beaufort, South Carolina arriving just in time for the Revolutionary War. Captain Jack became a privateer, sailing his own boat, the "Saucy Jack." A privateer was a private owner of a boat licensed to attack enemy shipping, in this case the English. Captain Jack was quite successful, becoming rich in the process, eventually owning huge tracts of land on Hilton Head Island. He was killed in a hunting accident near Fish Haul Creek and was buried there in 1821. He was 73.

We will never know what caused Captain Jack and his wife to leave Ireland. It may have been wanderlust or the desire to make their own fortune. No one is descended from the "Virgin Queen", Elizabeth I. Yet, there IS an interesting Stoney family connection.



Sharing the Heritage

At our Zion Forum held on October 13, Dr. Ehren Foley of the State Historic Preservation Office in Columbia, SC announced that the Zion Chapel of Ease was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 5, 2017. The official name of the site listing is St. Luke's Parish Zion Chapel of Ease Cemetery. Foley said, "It's notable that we have a community group willing to say that this place matters and we are going to work to do that." The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation.



By Iva Roberts Welton
Board Member

It was a labor of love for me to work on this application. For about three years I researched the history of the people buried there, what was happening on the Island at that time, and the meaning and carvers of the different markers. I kept digging for facts requested on the application, discovering information I had never thought of.

Lou Benfante, President of Heritage Library and a past history major, came to my rescue and helped me complete the application which was sent to the State Review Board, SC Department of Archives and History in Columbia. At the request of the Review Board, Lou and I went to Columbia on November

18 and answered the Board's questions. We passed with flying colors.

Then the application was sent to the National Park Service in Washington which sent the application back to Columbia several times. Their emphasis was fueled by the site's funerary art and archaeological potential. Why not see this for yourself – tours are on Fridays at 10:00 am. Check details at www.heritagelib.org.

A donation to help us continue with the restoration and preservation of this project will be appreciated. Please send a check marked "Zion Fund" to Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, PO Box 23019. HHI, 29925.

Any questions? Please email me at ivasouth@aol.com.



Iva answered questions about Heritage Library at the Sea Pines Farmers' Market last November.

Heritage Library Membership



**By Laurette
Doscher-Benfante**
Membership Chair

Welcome to 14
New and 29
Renewal Members
who have joined
our Heritage
Library family.

NEW MEMBERS

South Carolina

Bluffton

Carolyn Anderson
Adelaide Christensen
Patricia Gibson
Sharon and Robert Swank

Hilton Head Island

Becky and Walter Cederholm
Suzanne and Bruce DeVoe
MaeBeth Graziano
Angie and Walter Greenfield
Barbara and Jim Jumpeter
Geoff Partlow
Sarah Patton
Sylvia and Stanley Stroup

St. Helena Island

Lydia Mondavi

Out of State

Amy Tracy, Colorado Springs
CO

Out of the Country

Darlene Grabo, Nova Scotia,
Canada

RENEWAL MEMBERS

South Carolina

Bluffton

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Sylvia Martinez
Dedra and Thomas Roberts
Carole and Ron Rossi
Judith Tyler
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Okatie

Barbara Friis

Out of State

Gretchen and Thomas D. Johns,
Jacksonville FL

Robert Malphrus, Troy NY

We're Recruiting

We are looking for a Friday receptionist. Hours: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Duties: answering the phone and greeting visitors furnishing Library information, taking messages, and signing up people for various events; handling money; other duties as assigned. Requirements: computer skills a must and experience in Microsoft Word and Excel preferred. Also, we need experienced genealogists for various days. Hours: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Duties: assisting patrons. Requirements: computer skills and experience researching family trees using ancestry.com and other programs a must. Please respond to Linda Piekut at lindapiekut@gmail.com or **843-686-6560**.



The Heritage Library is a member of the Arts and Cultural Council of Hilton Head

www.HiltonHeadArtsDaily.org

Celebrating Arts, Culture and History: The Heart and Soul of the Lowcountry