

OUR NEWEST CONTRIBUTOR

Kate Hanzalik

We are thrilled to add a new contributor. Kate Hanzalik has been a freelance writer for more than thirteen years. She is pursuing her MFA in writing at the Savannah College of Art and Design. She teaches writing classes and is working on her thesis about the Plantation Era on Daufuskie

Island. We are looking forward to more articles from Kate as she completes her thesis on Daufuskie Iland.

Previously, she worked as a book publicist, managing campaigns for HarperCollins Publishers, Routledge Books, Farrar, Strauss & Giroux, Workman Publishing, Simon and Schuster, and Meredith Books. Email her at katerose7296@yahoo.com.



This photo of Robert Carse is believed to be from 1975. Source: LibraryThing

Robert Carse

In the Thirties Robert Carse was a prolific writer of pulp fiction. Among the magazines where his work appeared were *Argosy*, where he specialized in stories about the French Foreign Legion, and *Adventure* magazine. He wrote a novelization of the movie *Morgan the Pirate* and later wrote a number of histories and historical novels. His novels included *Winter of the Whale*, *Turnabout*, and *Fire in the Night*. Many of his histories were about seafaring; they included *The Twilight of the Sailing Ships*; *Ports of Call*; *The Moonrakers; the story of the clipper ship men*, and *The long haul: The United States Merchant Service in World War II*. His book *Hilton Head Island in the Civil War* was first published by State Printing, Columbia, in 1961. More about it in a future issue of *Glimpses*.

The Heritage Library Foundation

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Norma Harberger Past President of Heritage Library Foundation

Norma Harberger, a past President and Board member of the Heritage Library Foundation, and long-time volunteer at the Library, died June 7, 2010, after a long struggle against cancer. She was a native of Pennsylvania, and she and her husband Norman moved to Hilton Head Island in 1988.

After serving during the 1990s on the Board of the Coastal Discovery Museum, Norma joined the fledgling Heritage Library Foundation, and quickly put her earlier volunteer experience, in Philadelphia, to work. At the Library she undertook the important task of organizing our “non-book” resources: the periodicals, the maps, the vertical files, the files of family names, the Betsy Caldwell and Wilbur Cross collections, and the papers donated by the Rev. Dr. Robert Peeples. She also directed the preparation of indexes to the *Islander Magazine*, and to several published books. Her interest in history produced her two-volume compilation of “Hilton Head Island People.”

But perhaps her legacy rests as much on her work as president in 2008, when she almost single-handedly located and negotiated the Library’s move to the Savannah Bank building. The countless hours she spent doing this we are now so grateful for, and it is sad that her illness denied her the opportunity to appreciate the results of her dedication .

We miss her greatly.

ISOBEL BITNER



Ethel and Frank Wiley show off a heaping tray of Daufuskie “Devil Crabs.” She wears a “Daufuskie Day” tee shirt. Photo by Kate Hanzalik.

DAUFUSKIE DAY**A Legacy Lives On**

By Kate Hanzalik*

During the 1920s, Daufuskie Island was booming: oyster shucking was king, moonshine was sold undercover, often to government officials keeping local pockets filled with Lowcountry cash; the “pub” wood and turpentine industries made strong trade ties between the island and Savannah. The native islander population – the self-ascribed “Binyahs” (Gullah for “Been Here”), flourished at around 1,500 people. But fast forward to today, and the adage of “times they are a changin” really rings true.

Faced with a declining economy and the aftermath of Melrose Plantation’s bankruptcy, Daufuskie is home to only twelve to fifteen native islanders. Many of their children, grandchildren, and other friends and family members moved to Savannah, Hilton Head Island, and New York City for more opportunities. So is it possible to reel in a cultural diaspora and make familial connections as tight as they were less than a century ago?

In 1979, Francis Jones, the first teacher at Mary Field

*See Page 8 for information on Kate Hanzalik

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Discoveries and Mitchelville

As your foundation has begun to put greater emphasis on discovering, preserving, and making available local history of this area, we became more aware of striking parallels between our history and our genealogical work. A search in either field results in the same ponderings about the location and existence of records and the same thrills and “Eureka” moments of discovery. And when the exciting find is brought home, there is that same urge to share your discovery.

Recently, we heard from a descendant of the Hurley family which had large holdings on the Island about 1915. They sent interesting pictures and family information. When these first came to me, I immediately wanted to show them to everybody. Genealogists and historians alike will surely understand this feeling. The Hurley family story will soon appear in our other newsletter, *Glimpses*.

Mitchelville Update

The Mitchelville Preservation Project is making great progress in getting organized and in beginning to present its plans. As a member of the Committee, I have offered the historical resources of your Foundation for incorporation into the vision and planning. To start, we have been searching for all available photographs. Those found so far are on display at the Library-- take a look.



The ongoing search for historical records about Mitchelville has revealed how scattered they are. Leads indicate that some are at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee and some are at Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. Of course, your Library has always had a number of resources available, but with the project becoming active, it is time to find everything we can to support the information and create exhibits for the time the refoundation of Mitchelville becomes a reality.

You Can Help

Please consider supporting your Foundation by volunteering to participate in one of our interesting history initiatives. In addition to the currently active Mitchelville explorations, there are plans for the two sites we own—those of Zion Chapel and Fort Mitchell—both equally interesting and deserving of our action. Both are candidates for addition to the National Register of Historical Places. If you are interested in any aspect of this preservation please join us.

BOB SMITH

Editor's Note: Below are portions of two of the photos provided to Bob Smith by a member of the Mitchelville committee. The photos are of refugee quarters at Mitchelville on Hilton Head from the National Archives and are in the public domain. We hope that eventually we can obtain the Archives complete Mitchelville files.



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- Use “Print Screen” command to work with those “unprintable” web sites
- Drop pictures, maps, documents, into your narrative
- Crop, resize, frame, and add captions to items
- Add shapes, highlights, colors, arrows, etc., to stress key points in your narrative
- “Cover” parts of an odd shaped newspaper clipping in your narrative that you simply cannot crop out.
- Draw tables and boxes to create your own linear tree.

Requirements: This class is appropriate for those with basic computer skills. However, you must have Microsoft Word 2007 on your computer. Since this is a “hands on” class, you are encouraged to bring your laptop with a few photos saved on your computer so you can practice. It would also be helpful if you type up and save two brief paragraphs about your family or a person in your family.

Fee: \$30 Non-members, \$25 Foundation members

Class size limited, Call 843-686-6560 for registration

Note: This class will be repeated on February 9, 2011

**Creating Great Gifts**

Wednesday November 10 1:30 pm



Instructor: Carol Clemens

Turning your photos and genealogy research into great gifts

- This class will show you how to work with photos to create unique gifts that will allow you to share your research with other family members without overwhelming them.
- Learn to use a simple, free program to upload photos, edit them, and easily create an online album to share with family and friends. This is a much better way to share photos than sending them as attachments because the recipient doesn't have to download anything. No waiting! No message that the attachments are too large for your server! The albums can also be professionally printed at a very reasonable price.
 - Learn to use the same program to easily create a free

web site of genealogy photos to share with others. Add text, family outlines, a calendar, and more.

- Learn to take old photo albums and “redo” them on line to create a new version to share free with others on line. You can also have them printed out as a professional book for a reasonable price.

Requirements: This class assumes that those attending will have intermediate computer skills including how to get photos onto your computer (scanning or adding from a digital camera) and have Internet access.

Fee: \$30 Non-members, \$25 Foundation members

Class size limited, Call 843-686-6560 for registration

**History for Tourists**

This letter from the Rev. Dr. E. H. Peebles, a former president of the Hilton Head Historical Society and a valued supporter of the Heritage Library Foundation as well as a member of our Advisory Board, appeared in the *Island Packet* on July 28, 2010:

Good work always deserves commendation, and I hasten to offer it to your columnist David Lauderdale for his excellent, brief bibliography for the serious tourists in our midst.

As president emeritus of the Hilton Head Island Historical Society, I would like to offer two additional titles, remembering that a picture often is worth 1,000 words: Robert Carse's “Department of the South: Hilton Head Island in the Civil War” and the Rev. Stephen Barnwell's “Story of an American Family,” the beautifully illustrated story of Beaufort County's “founding family” and its progenitor, Gen. “Tuscarora Jack” Barnwell.

To make it easier for tourists to get their hands on these treasures, may I point out that they can be found at the Heritage Library,

Robert Carse's book is for sale at the Library. See more about Carse on Page 8.

Fall Classes at the Heritage Library

Starting Family Research

A two-session class for beginners

Wednesday, October 6, 1:30 pm Session One

Wednesday October 13, 1:30 pm Session Two



Instructor: Nancy Burke

If you are just starting family research, this class is for you.

This two part workshop introduces the first-time family researcher to the fascinating field of genealogy, its unique

nomenclature, and suggested research techniques. It may also be of value to researchers with limited experience who wish to refresh their skills. Participants will receive the textbook "Unpuzzling Your Past" in addition to hand-outs to help guide you in your research.

Fee: \$45 Non-members, \$40 Foundation members

Class size limited, Call 843-686-6560 for registration

Note: This class will be repeated on January 12 & 19, 2011



Using Family Tree Maker

Wednesday October 27 – 1:30 pm



Instructor: Carol Clemens

Get with the Program! Using Family Tree Maker 2010

If you are using a version of Family Tree Maker prior to 2009, or if you are not familiar with this software at all, this is the class for you. This introduction to FTM 2010 will help you with the basics of entering data into the program. The very different "work space" found in FTM 2009 and 2010 will be clarified. In addition, you will learn how to easily prepare

and print charts, reports, timelines etc. Learn how to instantly add on-line information and sources to your tree without having to hand enter the data. Easily view timelines of the events in an individual's life as related to others in the same family and even as related to world events. Use maps to quickly plot the moves made by an individual. If you think your old program is "good enough", this class just might change your mind!

Requirements: While this is a beginning class for the Family Tree maker 2010 Software, those attending must have basic computer skills and know how to search the Internet.

Fee: \$30 Non-members, \$25 Foundation members

Class size limited, Call 843-686-6560 for registration

Note: This class will be repeated on January 26, 2011



Pieces of Your Past

Wednesday, November 3, 1:30 pm



Instructor: Carol Clemens

Create a "Pieces of Your Past" booklet using MSWord2007

Are you using Word 2007 just for text? If so, you are missing many tools this program offers

for the genealogist to create a family narrative complete with photos, maps, newspaper clippings, clip art, copies of documents etc. integrated into your narrative. This is a "hands on" class and you are encouraged to bring your laptop. Don't worry, if you don't have a laptop, come anyhow!

Step by step directions will be given for those using Word 2007. Alternate info will be provided for those using the Microsoft Works word processor. If you use a different word processing program, you will still learn how to create the project, but you will have to adapt some parts to fit the word processing program you use

You will leave this class knowing how to:

Your Participation is Deeply Appreciated

In this less-than-great economic time we are especially grateful to the members and friends of The Heritage Library who have participated in the two most recent activities and helped us raise money for the general operation of the Library.

In March we took part in the Equestrian Exposition held at Rose Hill Plantation. We want to especially thank Iva Welton and Tom Senf for providing so much energy in encouraging our members as well as community businesses to become patrons and supporters of the event. Thanks also to those of you who supported this worthwhile event. Patrons included Jay Fairvalley, Iva Welton and John Meyers, Smittie Cooler, and Barbara and Al Muller. We receive a whopping 65% of any monies we bring to the Expo. As a result we recently received a check for \$5,100.

The other activity in which we took part in April was the Birdies for Charity sponsored by the Verizon Heritage Golf Tournament. Those who participated were Gwen and Bill Altstaetter, Isobel Bitner, Joe and Nancy Burke, Smittie Cooler, Pamela Dials, Ed Dowaschinski, John Geisler, Gary and Pre Moore, David and Sharon Nelson, Priscilla Russo, Tom Senf, Robert Smith and Lyman Wooster, and the Palmetto Hall Women's Club. During this tournament many of us were watching and hoping for a big run on birdies! Our check from this endeavor was \$1,419.58. Thank you.

We hope next year to have the numbers on both of those checks be even higher. This can only happen if more of our members will "step up to the plate" and participate! We thank those of you who took the time, energy and money to invest in The Heritage Library's future.

GWEN ALTSTAETTER

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

News of Members and Volunteers



It is with much sadness that we must tell you who do not already know about the passing of our former president of the Foundation and devoted volunteer Norma Harberger. (See article on Page 1). Among the many things Norma

gave to the Library was her dedication to setting up the vertical files. She will be sorely missed.

We do have good news in that we have two new volunteers who are receiving at the front desk Sheila Buck on Mondays and Hedy Moore on Thursdays. They are also each working on special projects which will be added to our Web site when completed. Thanks so much!

We welcome six new members to the Foundation: From Georgia, Louise Phelps, and from Virginia, Walter and Betsy Margeson. From Hilton Head Island, Ezra Callahan, Kent Collins and Dr. Charles McOuat are joining the membership.

As usual we are still in need of more active members and volunteers. Also thanks to our members who are continuing their support by renewing their memberships and donating books and materials to the Library.

We have an active fall schedule of workshops planned. Fall classes are listed on Pages 6-7, and you can always check our Web site to see schedules and any updates. If you have any questions please call 686-6560.

GWEN ALTSTAETTER

Daufuskie Day: Cont'd from Page 1

School (also the aunt of current Savannah mayor, Otis Johnson), decided it was time for ex-pat islanders and permanent islanders to reconnect. Daufuskie Day would be the day in which all generations could come back to the island to reconnect, honor ancestors, celebrate traditions, and sell homemade fare and wares. And just as it has taken place on the fourth Saturday in June since 1979, Daufuskie Day was held this year, on Saturday, June 26, at the park outside of Marshside Mama's, the first, and one of only two restaurants on the island open to the public.

The day is also significant because it is the day before the anniversary of the First Union African Baptist Church. June 27 marked 127 years since the church was established by twelve native islander trustees. Among the first freedmen on Daufuskie, they purchased the land for \$82 from the family of John Stoddard, a cash crop planter and merchant, from the north who owned much of Daufuskie Island until the Civil War.

Daufuskie Day is presented by the Daufuskie Island Foundation. Ervin Simmons, vice president, says that a goal is to raise visibility and funds for the group's broader initiatives, such as taking care of the cemetery and connecting with the church. "We want to celebrate, come back, sell local goods," he says. "Our biggest concern is land preservation. We're trying to tap grants to do more for the local community."

A committee of eight native islanders from the Daufuskie Island Foundation hosted a day of storytelling by Brother Hudson, Louise Cohen, and Brother Jamal, "De African Spirit," African dancing by Imani, and singing and music by Mrs. Georgette and Brother Hudson. A special appearance and historical tour was offered by born-and-bred Daufuski-an Sallie Ann Robinson, a celebrity chef and author of two Gullah cookbooks. "I am like my great grandmother, Sallie [Fields-William]," says Robinson, who grew up in the Historic District, close to the New River, on land that was once part of the Martinangle, Mongin and Stoddard plantations. "She was a very helpful, good-willed positive lady. She didn't believe in the negative. And I don't care who you are and where you are from, I can feed you and talk about the way we lived...I am leaving all my history behind so somebody can use it in a positive way." Robinson's great-great-grandfather, Henry William, Jr. was one of the twelve trustees leading the creation of the First Union African Baptist Church.

Lining the wide dirt path from Daufuskie Landing to the party tent outside of the restaurant was a trove of local vendors and merry, but sweaty, well-wishers. Ethel Wiley,

famous for her Daufuskie "Devil Crabs," was there with her husband Frank and an overflowing – but fast selling – tin of those sweet, savory devil gems. Life-long resident Ethel says that Daufuskie Day means "Family, friends, and sharing food." Ernestine Smith, another well-known "devil crab" maven, shaded herself under her tent while her goodies sold like hot cakes. Her friend, Roosevelt Brown-Lee, who used to live on Daufuskie Island and ran the general store said "I want to keep the memory of past fresh in the young ones' minds so they know where they came from. They should always look to culture so they don't forget."

Lenore Brown-Wallace, who hadn't been to Daufuskie Day in six years, took the hour-long boat trip from Shelter Cove down Calibogue Sound past the place on the water in which she was baptized, snapping pictures and recalling fond memories of her grandparents: her grandmother, Agnes Simmons, an island midwife, and her grandfather, Plummy (aka Walter Simmons), who was the Haig Point lighthouse keeper and a preacher. Known in her childhood as "the cute girl," she was the apple of her grandfather's eye, following Plummy around like a shadow all day, learning vital skills from a Daufuskie leader. Now director of Memory Care at Carolina House, she believes her unique upbringing helped her to develop her own ambition and leadership skills, which she passed on to her children, Wayne Danielle Housey, and her daughter, Simone Robinson, who is now an attorney.

"I thought Daufuskie Day was very well planned," said Brown-Wallace. "I just wanted to see more of the original Daufuskie people."

Daufuskie native Freddie Grant, son of Sarah Grant, was there as usual. "I go every year. I like to see tourists enjoy the island."

Roy Stevens and Marcus Simmons, two sprightly, born-and-raised islanders who now reside on Hilton Head Island, made it a point to attend. "We've got to come back and celebrate home," says Stevens, who is the son of Ella Mae Stevens and the brother of Amelia Stevens-Benskin, the president of the Daufuskie Island Foundation.

So is it really possible to reel in a cultural diaspora? The one in charge, Amelia Stevens-Benskin might think so. She says, "This event gets natives back to the island." But she also commented on the low turnout in comparison to years past, encouraging visitors to plan for the next Daufuskie Day and, for those with something to sell or promote, to take out vendor tables. "We're trying to keep the heritage alive."

For more information visit aufuskieislandfoundation.com.

Family Reunions at the Heritage Library



Recently our quarters were the sites of families studying and celebrating their connections. Clockwise from the upper right, members and descendants of the Lawton family shared greetings, research and food this past June.



The Aiken-Singleton Family held its 50th Annual Reunion on Father's Day weekend. Below, left, Janice Minor, the group's public relations director, wears a pin

from the 33rd reunion with a photo of their honoree, William Aiken, 1891-1983. Below, right, John Griffin describes for the group his research on Mabel Singleton, William's wife and "The Girl Next Door."

