



The Heritage Observer

News from The Heritage Library

Bringing the Past to Life

Vol. 2, No. 5

SEPTEMBER 2010

MAUSOLEUM PRESERVATION

Baynard Mausoleum Gets *Island Packet* Coverage Repairs to Begin Early October

After several postponements, work to stabilize the stone roof of the Baynard Mausoleum is slated to begin in early October.



This photo by Jay Karr of the Island Packet shows some of the effects of time and weather on the mausoleum roof. Note how the third granite slab from the left has begun to sink and slide toward the edge. Also note the vines growing on the roof, their roots contributing to the problem.

On September 12, the *Island Packet* ran a front page story on the deterioration of the mausoleum and our efforts to stop the slide into complete collapse. Rain and other obligations of the contractor have moved the anticipated start date from September to October.

The Mausoleum has a number of structural and exterior problems that must be addressed in the long run if the structure is to be saved for future generations. The current work is a temporary fix to keep the structure from deteriorating further.

William Leitner, treasurer and board member of the Hilton Library Foundation, is overseeing the efforts to stabilize the roof.

Cont'd on Page 2

Progress Report No. 1 2010 Annual Fund Campaign

The goal for the 2010 Campaign is \$35,000

At September 30, with three months remaining, contributions and pledges received total \$5,515.00

With 27 members responding so far, we have heard from just short of 10% of the membership and

the average gift received is **\$204.26**.

The remaining 90% of the membership are yet to be heard from.

Contributions totalling \$29,485 are needed between now and year end, if the 2010 campaign is to achieve the goal.

If the remaining 258 members each donated **\$114.29** the goal would be realized. That is less than

Ten Dollars per month.

If half that number (129 members) were each to give \$240.00 (that's \$20.00 a month), we'd be "over the top"!

Surely the The Heritage Library is worth an extra \$20 a month!

***The Campaign Committee requests your support!
Please do it now!***

BILL ALTSTAETTER
CHAIRMAN

Baynard Mausoleum (Cont'd from Page 1)

According to William, part of the roof problem is believed to be incipient failure of the central support beam. This may be what is causing the building the slip, and continued slippage could mean the complete collapse of the building. So the need for these repairs has become obvious and urgent.

But replacing that central beam would mean removing the roof. Since the roof is composed of heavy granite slabs, this is no mean task, and funds must be raised to bring in the necessary equipment to do so. So the present work is designed to keep the roof in place by anchoring those granite slabs to a metal frame that will surround them.

The walls present another problem: composed of sandstone, they take up water; during the winter, the water freezes and thaws, resulting in exfoliation, or falling off in scales.

The stabilization of the roof is to be done by Kyle Mulligan, the cost of which exhausts the funds previously designated for this project.

However, since a story about the mausoleum appeared in the *Island Packet* a few weeks ago, we have received several contributions specifically for the mausoleum. We are grateful for all help and hope members of the community, who realize the importance of saving our history for future generations, will continue to add to this fund.

Is Anybody in There?

The packet article prompted the question we hear a lot: is anyone still in the Baynard mausoleum?

William Eddings Baynard, who erected the granite mausoleum, died in 1849, only 49 years old, and his casket was placed in the mausoleum. His wife, Catherine Adelaide, died in 1854, and joined her husband in the mausoleum.

At one time (accounts differ as to when) vandals crashed open the carved doors and threw the caskets into the marsh at the head of Broad Creek. The Baynard caskets were subsequently moved to another location.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Recovering Mitchelville

One of my great pleasures these days as your president is working on the Mitchelville Preservation Project. Our committee, more than twenty, are galvanized, by Tom Barnwell's leadership attempting to bring this landmark concept into a significant reality.

It is important for the world to know that right here on Hilton Head some of the most important initial steps were taken in bringing the former slaves of this country into freedom. A self-governing community with schools for the children was established. Its people began working for wages while moving into property ownership.

If all goes well, the committee will build a facility for people from all over the country to come to and celebrate the spiritual thrill that comes with the realization of what it meant to those enslaved people to move from bondage to freedom.

The role of the Heritage Library Foundation is to support the historical story that will be told with as much authentic documentation as our researchers can add to the material we already have. Already we have gathered all the available photographs of Mitchelville. We hold a number of books and reports, and in many of them bibliographies lead to more references. Here then is another opportunity for our volunteer researchers to get involved in the rewarding task of bringing to the fore more of this inspiring history.

Already board member Dr. James M. Rose, the eminent African-American historian, has added a dimension to the Mitchelville saga by uncovering much of the pre-war history of people here. He presented this to the Committee in a talk at our Library last July 6. His expansive idea that the history to be told at the new Mitchelville park should look back at the origins of the Mitchelville people as well as at the events at the time and what happened after the Civil War was well received.

BOB SMITH

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**THE BAYNARD MAUSOLEUM AND
THE ZION CHAPEL CEMETERY**

Work Yet to be Done

A number of tasks are needed to properly preserve this building. The following is a preliminary list with an estimate of their costs.

For the Mausoleum

Roof Repair: Stonemason and hydraulic lift to repair and preserve roof of mausoleum. Bluestone roof is collapsing due to broken main support beam. \$45,000

Foundation: Pour concrete foundation in front third section of mausoleum and supporting entrance area to prevent further tilting of southern corner and cracking of front wall and entryway. \$5,000

Walls: Stone mason to preserve/repair red sandstone block walls of mausoleum. \$35,000

Exterior Surfaces: Apply stone sealer to prevent external water intrusion of “shedding” sandstone vertical surfaces of mausoleum. \$10,000

Fence Repair: Metal worker to repair steel fences and replace sections surrounding mausoleum and other family burial sections \$5,000

In the Cemetery

Headstones: Concrete materials and hydraulic lift to straighten six headstone markers located in the cemetery \$3,000

Parking Area: Repair and paint reinforced concrete white parking area fence \$1,000

Maintenance: Bi-annual bush-hogging of shrubs along property lines \$500

Signage: Cemetery information kiosk constructed and installed \$500

Historic Register: National historic registry cemetery sign to be placed near entrance \$1500

Benches: Three cemetery stone or metal benches for visitor use \$1,200

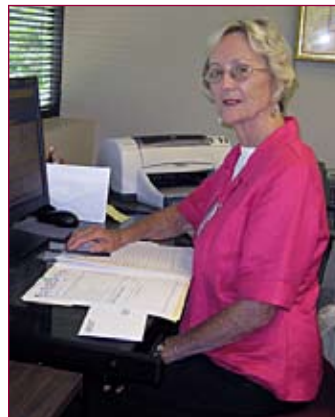
Grounds: Cut tree limbs to 15 feet above ground and pickup/haul away branches \$1,000

Landscaping: Trimming, cutting grass, and spreading mulch spring and fall \$1,200

History Marker: Clean and paint existing metal “Chapel of Ease” history marker \$1,200

WILLIAM LEITNER

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



**News of Members
and Volunteers**

As I write this column the temperature is still in the 90s but by the time you read this the “cool” (it’s all relative) of Fall will have arrived. Enjoy!

We are happy to welcome new members to the Foundation – they are:

Keith Rushing from Washington D.C. and from Hilton Head Island Paul Harper, Donna Levin, Stewart and Nina Rodman, Sarah Takacs and Paul Grazio. Happy researching!

As a reminder to all our members the Library is open Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 am until 3 pm with volunteers available to assist you in your search! Please ask!

Speaking of our wonderful volunteers: when you come by next time be sure to look to your right as you enter the Library! Each month volunteer Blanche Nelson fills the display case with books and pictures following a different theme. This month she has some fascinating pictures of Mitchelville, an area on the Island which has been in the local news recently. It is another preservation project developing on Hilton Head supported by members of the community and the Library. Thank you, Blanche – we appreciate the good work!

We are always looking for volunteers and have a variety of tasks available. Isobel Bitner, head librarian, will be happy to talk with you and help you find your niche.

In October another group of volunteers will be leading our Fall workshop schedule. Please go to our Web site for additional information. (www.heritagelib.org)

On a more serious note – in the past our members have been very good responding to our membership renewal letters or to the follow-up reminder letters. However, of late, the response has not been what we hoped. As I have indicated in the past, members are our life’s blood and we don’t like to lose any of you. If you have any suggestions that will make it easier for you to make the decision to renew please let us know. *We look forward to your input – it is, after all, your library.*

GWEN ALTSTAETTER

Bride Chooses Fort Mitchel For her Wedding



Maureen Cohen, of Creative Wedding Ceremonies, officiated at the wedding of Ryan Beckett and Holly Johnson. The bride's daughter, Allie Brooks, held her mother's flowers and was part of the ceremony.

Holly Johnson and Ryan Beckett wanted a non-traditional wedding. "Everyone gets married on the beach," said Holly "I wanted something different." So the couple, with the help of wedding consultant Maureen Cohen, chose the highest point of the Fort Mitchel walkway, surrounded by trees and overlooking Port Royal Sound.

The bride's daughter, four-year-old Allie Brooks, was part of the intimate ceremony. The groom read a series of promises to Allie, then fastened around her neck a pendant bearing three gemstones in recognition of the new family unit.

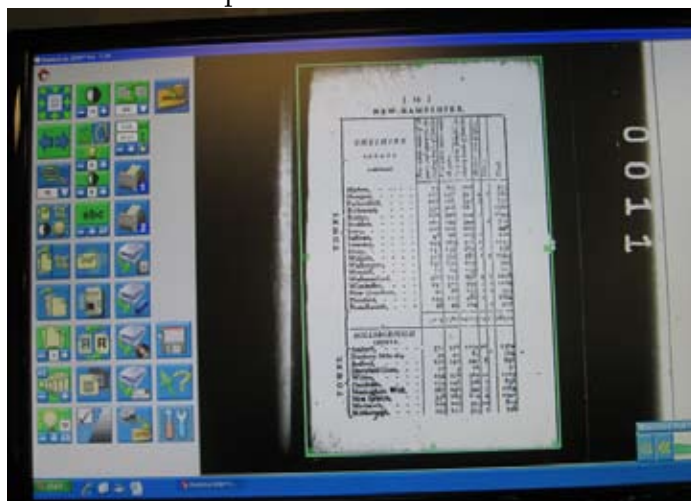
Following the ceremony, Allie sprinkled the site with rose petals, then the new family went to their reception.



ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

New Microfilm Scanner at Heritage Library Improves Images

Made possible through a grant from the Heritage Classic Foundation (the backers of the Heritage Golf Tournament) this new scanner not only sharpens microfilm images but also provides a digital output. This promises to be immensely useful to our patrons who often have had to wrestle with dim images from ancient documents or had difficulty getting usable reproductions to incorporate in their research.



When first viewed, this microfilm of an old record is twisted and difficult to read. The controls of the ScanPro 2000 allow straightening of the image and adjustment of brightness and contrast, significantly improving image quality. Available functions are indicated by the colorful icons on the left of the screen.

Our library is one of the few Lowcountry branches of the library of the LDS church in Salt Lake City, providing access for our patrons and staff to the millions of microfilms held there. Ordering and viewing those films here, our members enjoy easy access to these great annals of history that reach into the records of people and places around the world.

This new equipment will enable our volunteers to digitize microfilm records acquired over the years, such as the Burial Records for those remains removed from Hilton Head to the National Cemetery in Beaufort and the Land Certificate records for the sales of land here after the Civil War.

Heritage Library at the Italian Heritage Festival

The first annual Italian Heritage Festival (sponsored by the Italian American Club of HHI) was held September 25 in Shelter Cove Park with the blessing of the weather gods.

The goal of the event was to showcase Italian heritage and culture through family history, music, food and more. The Heritage Library was invited to help showcase the event with a booth where Nancy Burke and I displayed our wares, distributed *Glimpses* and *The Heritage Observer*, sold Robert Carse's book on Hilton Head during the Civil War, shared information on the library's classes and talks and, most important, answered visitors' questions on how to get back to their ancestral roots.

Folks of all ethnic backgrounds came to visit the booth. Nancy, one of the library's most experienced genealogists, fielded the questions—most of which were about how to get started on family research, what bare bones information needs to be gathered to proceed. Questions about what sources—church, birth, marriage and death records, ship manifests, etc.—were available that might help yield the information needed were expertly answered.

Some visitors to the booth were further along in their research and had specific questions about how to solve a particularly thorny research problem, or wanted to know how to hunt down a missing family member to complete their family tree.

The festival provided the library with an excellent opportunity to inform the Low Country community of what we have to offer. There was a continuous flow of visitors to the booth which shows just how keen people are to bring their past to life – scallywags and scoundrels alike.

PRISCILLA RUSSO

Editor's Note: Nancy Burke reminds us that it was Priscilla who made the arrangements, did the leg work, and answered many of the questions at the booth. It is no small job organizing such efforts, and Priscilla's work is much appreciated.



It was a warm and sunny Saturday in Shelter Cove Park on Hilton Head Island when those with Italian ancestry or tastes gathered to explore the booths, test taste delights and wine. One of the busiest booths was that manned by Nancy Burke and Priscilla Russo (above, far left) to acquaint festival-goers with the operations of the Heritage Library. Much in demand was the expertise of Nancy Burke (left, below)



Fall Classes at the Heritage Library

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:

- 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 online to create a new version to share free with others online. 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



Note: Nancy Burke's class, *Starting Family Research*, will be repeated on January 12 & 19, 2011



Maureen Richardson of the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society is swapping lectures with our Bob Smith, who will speak at the Society on October 20 about Hilton Head during the Civil War

The Bluffton Historical Preservation Society

Maureen Richardson, Executive Director of the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society, received her Master of Arts degree in Historic Preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design.

She started with the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society as an intern in 2003, became Director of the Heyward House Historic Center in 2005, and was promoted to her present position as Executive Director in 2008. She presented her lecture on "Bluffton 101" to Heritage Library members and plans a liaison program with the Library.

As part of the Society's Thomas Heyward Lecture Series, on November 20, Bob Smith will present a talk on Hilton Head during the Civil War. Other lectures in the series November 7 and 13. The Society also plans a Victorian Christmas Party. For details call 843-757-6293.



News of Board Members

Harvey Varnet recently was appointed executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of South Carolina Beaufort. He says he is now working 10-hour-plus days.

Dr. James Rose is in Tampa recovering from colon surgery, followed by serious complications. Now, thankfully, on the mend, he says he is eager to return to his work on African-American genealogy. He will appreciate hearing from you: james142@juno.com

Part of Our Italian Records

A few years ago, a local Italian-American club, UNICO, donated many books to the Heritage Library, about Italian history and genealogy. They have proved very useful to patrons researching their Italian heritage. Here are a few examples, located in the Italian collection:

Heritage - Italian-American Style. Leon J. Radomile. (1999).

1500 short questions and answers about Italian contributions to world history and culture.

Discovering your Italian Ancestors. Lynn Nelson. (1997).

A "how-to" book.

The Italian 100. Stephen Spignesi. (1998).

Subtitled - A ranking of the most influential, cultural, scientific, and political figures, past and present.

Italian Roots. John P. Colletta. (1996).

Resources and hints to help in genealogical research.

Italian Genealogical Records. Trafford R. Cole. (1995).

Detailed explanation of how to use Italian records - civil, military and ecclesiastical.

A Student's Guide to Italian-American Genealogy. Terra C. Brockman. (1996).

A brief history of immigration from Italy, and information on researching for ancestors.

Our Italian Surnames. Joseph G. Fucilla. (1949)

Detailed guide to the evolution and meaning of the names.

The Italian Experience in America. Michael D. DeMichele. (1982).

The immigrant's arrival and eventual assimilation and contribution to American society.

The Library is always interested in obtaining donations of books relating to genealogy and history.

ISOBEL BITNER

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