

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Hilton Head Island Archaeology Chapter

March 2019

George Stubbs, Editor

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Welcome John Goldsborough discussing Santa Elena

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last month was a very busy month for the ASSC. Our Chapter speaker was Dr. Sarah Miller, who wowed us with her documentary and talk about the Pon Pon Chapel of Ease near Walterboro. We are planning a field trip to Pon Pon in May—more to come.

The ASSC also had our 45th Annual Conference on South Carolina Archaeology at USC in Columbia. This was a full-day program packed with scientific papers on South Carolina archaeology. Of note was the keynote speaker, Dr. David Anderson, who gave a paper at the first ASSC Conference—in 1975!

For me, the highlight of the Conference was the presentation of the Robert L. Stephenson Award for Lifetime Achievement to our own George Stubbs. In addition to serving as our Chapter President for 10 years, George also served two terms as the State President. He has had a major impact on both our Chapter and the ASSC as a whole, and continues to play an important role in our community, including being my very wise and indispensable mentor. Congratulations, George, and thank you.

March is somewhat of a Santa Elena month for us. We were invited to put up our table at the Santa Elena Center's 500th Birthday Party for Pedro Menendez; thanks to Carol Dembowski and Joe and Rita Kernan for turning out to staff the table. And our speaker will be John Goldsborough, Jr., who participated in the earliest excavations at Santa Elena. I heard him speak at the Santa Elena Center, and decided he was someone we had to have speak to us. Welcome, John.

--Dave Gordon

SANTA ELENA

Jean Ribault founded Charlesfort on Parris Island in 1562. Less than a year later Charlesfort was abandoned as the French moved south to found Fort Caroline. Pedro Menendez arrived in 1565 and drove the French from the Southeast.

Menendez arrived on Parris Island in 1566, built Fort San Salvador and founded Santa Elena. Later, after the arrival of more men, he built a larger fort, San Felipe. Two years later farmers, Catholic missionaries and families arrived. By 1569 there were 40 homes around the central plaza. For 21 years Spain struggled to keep the village working.

In 1576 ill treatment of the Native Americans provoked an attack by the Guale and Orista and the Spanish fled. In 1577 the Spanish returned and built Fort San Marcos. Then in response to a English threat Spain decided to shrink its presence in the Florida colony and in 1587 Santa Elena was destroyed and abandoned.

MEETING DATES

The March meeting will be held on Saturday, **MARCH 16th** starting at 1 PM in Discovery House, Coastal Discovery Museum.

The April meeting will be on April 13th.

Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. at the Coastal Discovery Museum by president, David Gordon. A quorum was present. In attendance were vice president George Stubbs, secretary Carol Dembowski, treasurer Rita Kernan, and 16 attendees including board.

Business:

The treasurer gave the February 2019 Treasurer's Report as follows:

Treasury balance on January 12, 2019: \$2,680.62
Dues Deposits on January 15 and January 31, 2019: \$270.00
Deposit slip error charge January 31, 2019: - \$6.00
Chapter Treasury balance January 12, 2019: \$2,944.62
Robert Campbell Memorial Fund balance: - \$2,345.00
Dues collected for 2019 owed to ASSC: -\$230.00
Chapter's working balance: \$369.62

Old Business:

President presented old business as the availability of the 2017 Edition of South Carolina Antiquities for 2107 paid members who have not yet picked up their copy.

New Business:

President introduced New Business which included a reminder about annual membership dues, the 45th Annual ASSC Conference to be held Saturday, February 16 from 9-5 and the fact that our Vice President, George Stubbs will be receiving the Robert L Stephenson Award for Lifetime Achievement from the ASSC at that conference meeting.

Other new business: Treasurer Rita Kernan updated the audience on the Ford's Shell Ring passive park initiative in conjunction with the Beaufort County Passive Parks Program. Rita announced that our project was approved and is 16th on the list for development, but we hope we're much closer to the top of the list than that.

Member Iva Welton asked about our Chapter's involvement with the Beaufort Co. Historical Society's work on the Zion Cemetery and Baynard Mausoleum. Iva is a staunch supporter of this effort and asked for all present to consider helping.

No other new business was introduced.

Guest Speaker:

The president introduced Dr. Sarah Miller who presented a documentary video "The Burnt Church: An Exploration of Pon Pon Chapel of Ease" and fielded questions afterward. This site is on the National Register of Historic Places. The video documented the efforts underway to preserve the Pon Pon Chapel of Ease as a valuable historical site in Jacksonboro in Colleton County, SC. The goals to preserve the site include a thorough preservation analysis, plans for shoring it up, historical signage, a sitting or reflection area, and a path to the adjacent resting place of Revolutionary War martyr, Isaac Hayne.

For more information on the Pon Pon Chapel of Ease, go to <http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/colleton/S10817715005/>.

The president announced our next meeting date as Saturday, March 9, 2019, at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

JOHN GOLDSBOROUGH

John Goldsborough is a native of Beaufort. He is a graduate of the Citadel and studied archaeology and anthropology at a graduate level at Florida State University. He also has a master's degree in earth sciences from the University of South Carolina.

John was an archaeologist with the National Park Service and worked at several national parks and monuments in the southeast including the Star Fort, Fort Moultrie, Fort Pickens, Cumberland Island and the Natchez Trace. He worked on phase one of excavations with Stanley South at the Santa Elena site on Parris Island and, in its latter years, was lab and field supervisor for the project.

After ten years as an archaeologist John started a career in education. He taught history and science and also developed curriculum for gifted programs in Richland District 2 in Columbia. John is retired and lives in Columbia with his wife, Joanne Nickles Goldsborough, also a native of Beaufort. He has one adult son, Parker.

ARCHAEOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

Wreckage of World War II Aircraft Carrier Found

CBS News reports that the wreckage of USS Hornet sunk on 26 October 1942 during the Battle of Santa Cruz Islands has been found under more than 17,000 feet of water in the South Pacific Ocean. The wreckage identity was confirmed by the symbol CV-8 spotted by video footage taken by a remotely operated vehicle. Hornet played two key roles during WW II, including launching the airborne attack on Tokyo in April 1942, and causing heavy damage to Japanese aircraft carriers during the Battle of Midway in June 1942.

Archaeology Magazine



Our new display board!

Dear society member:

We are planning an exciting May event!

Instead of our usual guest lecturer at the Coastal Discovery Museum, our May meeting will be a day trip to the Pon Pon Chapel of Ease in Jacksonboro in Colleton County, SC.

Dr. Sarah Miller presented a documentary video "The Burnt Church: An Exploration of Pon Pon Chapel of Ease" at our February meeting and the attendees showed a great deal of interest in visiting this site, which is about a two hour drive from Bluffton and Hilton Head.

This trip will necessitate driving our own vehicles. If we left around 8:00 a.m. on **Saturday, May 11**, spent a couple of hours at the site, then had a lunch nearby before returning home, we should be back in Beaufort County around 4:00 p.m.

With that in mind, we'd like to get an idea of how many of you would plan on joining us.

With this overall plan in mind, please respond to Carol Dembowski (ckd2007@hotmail.com) by **April 1st** with names of interested parties. If possible, we would like to accommodate those who cannot drive themselves, therefore, we also ask you to indicate if you can provide transportation for one or two of those who cannot drive their own vehicles.

To ensure we get the most out of our visit, we will be coordinating this tour with Sarah Miller to get the most thorough and accurate information.

Looking forward to hearing from you.....

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