



The Islander

March 2016

A Publication of the St. George Island Civic Club

The next club meeting is March 17, St. Patrick's Day. The Beach Pit will be providing Corned Beef & Cabbage. The speaker will be Sheriff Mike Mock on preparations for Spring Break. Social hour begins at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00. Program begins at 7:30.

John Olander Named Member of the Year for 2015

This year the St. George Island Civic Club honored John Olander as Member of the year. John volunteers for many Island activities, such as: the lighthouse, bingo duty on every Tuesday that he is in town,



John Olander was presented his award by close friends Fred Stanley and Chris Jensen

trash patrol, prepare and take-down for Chili Cook-off, prepare and cleanup for New Year's Eve Bonfire, sets up SGI Quilter's tent at Florida Seafood Festival and helps with almost any project that comes up. Chris Jensen & Fred Stanley, who often fish with John, set him up with Chris talking about how much the winner does for the Civic Club and the Island and then asked Fred to come up. Most people thought Fred had won the award and applauded until they announced that John had really won the award.

Pinki Jackel and Rick Watson speak at February Meeting

Franklin County Supervisor of Elections Pinki Jackel and Franklin County District One Commissioner Rick Watson spoke about actions that affect Islanders at the February Civic Club meeting.

Pinki addressed the upcoming Florida Presidential Preference Primary by talking about deadlines for switching parties before an election. If someone wants to move from one party affiliation to another, it must be done at least 29 days before that election. The date to change affiliation to another party before the upcoming primary has passed. She said around 100 Franklin County voters switched from No Party Affiliation (or Independent) to either Democrat or Republican for this primary. Early voting for the primary begins on March 5 and the primary is March 15. Rick addressed items that may affect the Island, including improving Island Drive in Eastpoint. He talked about how much money the bed tax brought into Franklin County from renters enjoying our coast. Pinki was chosen by Gov. Rick Scott to complete the time remaining in the position due to the resignation and death of former Supervisor Ina Elliot and Rick was chosen by Gov. Scott to replace Pinki.

Full Moon Climb at Cape St. George Lighthouse

The March Full Moon Climb at the Cape St. George Lighthouse on St. George Island will be held on Wednesday, March 23. The Sunset/Full Moon Climb will take place from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and will include light hors d'oeuvres and a sparkling cider toast to the full moon. Cost is \$15.00 for the general public and \$10.00 for members of the St. George Lighthouse Association.

The sun will set at 7:53 p.m. and the "Worm" moon will rise at 8:14 p.m. on March 23. The March full moon is called the Worm moon because as the snows melt and the ground thaws, earthworms begin to appear and the robins of spring are not far behind. Full Moon names are attributable to Native American tribes, most notably the Algonquin, who named the moons to mark the changing seasons.

After sunset, people are invited to climb to the top of the lighthouse for a breathtaking view of the full moon, as space and time permit. Cost is \$10.00 for the general public and \$5.00 for SGLA members.

The Cape St. George Light is located in St. George Lighthouse Park at the center of St. George Island, where Island Drive (the road off the bridge) ends at Gulf Beach Drive. Parking is available in lots at either side of the park.

Because space is limited, reservations are recommended. For reservations or more information, please contact the Lighthouse Gift Shop at 850-927-7745.

Fifth Annual SGI Tour of Homes

The fifth annual St. George Island Tour of Homes held on February 13 was the most successful event yet.

Seven distinctive and beautiful homes were featured along with the Cape St. George Lighthouse and Keeper's House, and the St. George Plantation Clubhouse.

This year, over 700 people bought tickets and the Lighthouse made about \$15,000. The Tour weekend began with a kick-off event on Friday, February 12, featuring a special presentation, refreshments, cash bar, and door prizes. Josh Hodson, manager of the St. George Island State Park, spoke about the scenic and award-winning park's wildlife and other amenities. This event was held at the Jay Abbott Firehouse on the Island.

After the Tour, a party was held at Sometimes It's Hotter for all the volunteers who spent their Saturday selling tickets, driving, being docents at each home and various other duties.

The success of the Tour is directly attributable to the generosity of the homeowners, the dedication of more than 100 volunteers, the financial support of the Sponsors and Supporters, and the hard work of Lighthouse and Gift Shop staff.

SGLA is a non-profit Florida corporation organized to preserve, maintain and promote the Cape St. George Lighthouse. The Lighthouse was reconstructed in 2008 after collapsing in 2005. SGLA also built a replica of the Lighthouse Keeper's House which includes a museum and gift shop. Funds raised by SGLA are used for the ongoing maintenance of the Lighthouse, the Keeper's House and Lighthouse Park, and this year will help fund a new exhibit featuring a replica of the Cape St. George Light's third order Fresnel lens.

For more information, please visit their website at www.sgitourofhomes.com.

Upcoming Events

St. George Island Charity Chili Cook-Off

The 34th St. George Island Regional Chili Cookoff & Auction will take place Saturday, March 5. Friday, the 4th, the Auction Art Preview is in the evening from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the 324 East Pine Avenue firehouse. (*See Chili, Page Two*)

(Chili, From Page One)

Saturday events include:

5K Red Pepper Run at 8:00 a.m.

Crock Pot Judging 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Auction 11:00 a.m.

Booth Showmanship judging 11:30-12:15 p.m.

Miss Chili Pepper and Miss Hot Sauce judging at 12:15 p.m.

Taste awards 3:30 p.m.

All Saturday's events will be at the center of St. George Island. There is a \$ 5 entry fee.

Proceeds benefit the St. George Island Volunteer Fire Department and First Responders. Call (850) 927-2753 for more information or visit the Website at:

www.stgeorgeislandchilicookoff.com

Wooden Boatbuilding Class



The Apalachicola Maritime Museum (AMM) at 103 Water Street offers wooden boat building classes beginning March 7. The Apalachicola Maritime Museum class schedule become so popular that more classes were added as shown in the following schedule for construction of wooden kayaks. With the partnership of Pygmy boats out of Port Townsend, Washington, the national demand for the boat building experience in Apalachicola is increasing. To register call (360) 385-6143. Tuition: \$750 for primary student, \$200 for student helpers.

March 7-13

April 18-24

May 30-June 5

July 11-17

August 8-14

August 22-28

September 5-11

September 19-25

October 10-16

October 31-November 6

November 14-20

November 28-December 4

December 12-18

Videos of the boat building process are on the AMM YouTube channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW7vVaRLTcLf7Ah4Q9Z8Q>

Pygmy Boats (www.pygmyboats.com) is a manufacturer of high-quality small boat kits which has selected the Apalachicola Maritime Museum as an instructional program partner. In this capacity the AMM offers building classes to the public during which builders will construct their own wood kayak under the guidance of AMM Wooden Boat School director Ron Dierolf and Assistant Director Spencer Fegley.

The building process spans seven days and finishing can take an additional week

Any questions concerning the classes and the boats should be directed to Pygmy

Boats. Also, please feel free to contact the museum at woodenboatschool@ammf.org.

FSU Lecture: Digging in the Dark

FSU Marine Lab Hosts Paleoindian Lecture March 10. Digging in the Dark: How Submerged Paleoindian Sites Are Illuminating First American Studies. The Florida State University (FSU) Coastal and Marine Laboratory will host a lecture on submerged Paleoindian sites in the region on March 10. The lecture by Dr. Jessi Halligan will be held at the Turkey Point facility east of Carrabelle at 7 pm. Dr. Halligan will share her research conducted over the past several years and share lifestyle discoveries of Florida's early Paleoindians. According to Dr. Halligan "we still have many questions about the earliest Paleoindians. Research (See FSU, Page Four)

(FSU, From Page Three)

conducted during the past five years, however, has begun to provide some significant new insights. She and her collaborators have been conducting geoarchaeological investigations at numerous Paleoindian sites in Florida since 2008. Due to the excellent preservation found in Florida's underwater contexts, they have been able to clarify the archaeological context of several sites, make predictions about preserved Paleoindian site locations in this area, provide some tantalizing hints about the colonization of the Americas, and make some comments on the lifestyle of Florida's early Paleoindians." [Dr. Jessi Halligan](#) (FSU, Dept. of Anthropology) is an assistant professor in her first semester at FSU. She is a geoarchaeologist and Paleoindian archaeologist who specializes in submerged and coastal settings. Dr. Halligan has been working in Florida sinkholes since 2007, and received her PhD from Texas A&M in 2012. The FSU Marine lab is located at 3618 Coastal Highway 98, St. Teresa. For more information, call 850-697-3887, or go to www.marinelab.fsu.edu

Shakespeare (Abridged) at the Dixie Theatre



THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM
SHAKESPEARE
ABRIDGED

The Southern Shakespeare Company presents "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" written by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield. This ZANY comedy barrels through Shakespeare's entire canon of 37 plays. Three actors play all the parts, interact with the audience, make fun of each other, and throw swords and props all over the place, all for the love of Shakespeare. You don't have to know the Bard to join in the fun, but you might be surprised how much you already know when you hear so many familiar lines. It's truly non-stop hilarity with a little culture thrown in on the side! Two shows only: March 10 and March 11. Show, First Come, First Served with doors opening at 7 PM. Show beginning at 8 PM. For more information, call 850-653-3200 or go to www.dixietheatre.com

Camp Gordon Johnston Days

All who wish to show their support for all veterans can participate in the Camp Gordon Johnston Days parade in Carrabelle, Florida. The parade will take place on Saturday, March 12. The parade line-up begins on 10th Street West at 9:30 a.m. EST with the parade starting at 10:45 a.m. EST. The event kicks off on Friday, March 11, with a veterans social at the Camp Gordon Johnston American Legion Post 82 in Lanark Village. The social is open to all veterans with one guest or widows of WWII veterans. On Saturday evening March 12th, there will be a dinner/dance.

The parade will include the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA), 1st Florida Chapter's extensive lineup of military vehicles. They will join other local community groups and associations—the parade is open to all groups, military or civilian, who want to participate in the true spirit of American freedom. At the end of the parade the MVPA vehicles will be *(See Veterans, Page Five)*

(Veterans, From Page Four)

placed on display on Hwy 98 at the old Gulf State Bank. There will be plenty of parking available and the “meet and swap” groups will be able to set up shop at that location. For all MVPA members, meal tickets will be provided for a \$15.00 discount to approved area restaurants to be used during CGJ Days. These will be included in a packet you will receive when you register. There is a \$20.00 fee for all vendors.

The Camp Gordon Johnston WWII museum will be open both days from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. showing documentary films through-out the day. Entry fee is by donation and appreciated. Please allow at least 1 - 2 hours for a tour as there are extensive artifacts, photographs, displays, and films to see. Light refreshments will be provided with live music.

Carrabelle is 100 miles east of Panama City on Hwy 98, and about 60 miles south of Tallahassee.

The WWII Army camp engulfed over 275,000 acres and was a major U.S. Army Amphibious Training Base. Many that participated in the D-Day landings trained at Camp Gordon Johnston. It is a fun day for all veterans, families and friends attending, even a few WWII vets that went through the training here will be available to tell their stories. All civic, church, law enforcement, military, educational, etc. groups are welcome to include themselves in our parade. Vendors and civic organizations are also welcome to set up at the end of the parade route. More information is available by calling 850-697-8575. Registration to be in the parade can be made by using the form at campgordonjohnston.com/

AAHS: Confederate Sailors Presentation

Bob Holcombe, the former director of the National Civil War Naval Museum at Columbus, Georgia, will be speaking to the Apalachicola Area Historical Society on Thursday, March 17.

Mr. Holcombe’s presentation on the Confederate sailors from Apalachicola will be held in the Carriage House at the Raney House, 128 Market Street, Apalachicola. The program will begin at 5:30 p.m. and light refreshments will be served afterwards. This is part of the Apalachicola Area Historical Society’s monthly speakers’ program. For more information, call 850-653-1700 or go to www.apalachicolahistoricalociety.org

Florida's Native People Lecture

The Last of the First: Our Indigenous People’s struggle for Survival 10 am -12:30 pm on Saturday, March 19 at 201 NW Ave. F, Carrabelle.

A sad and shameful time in our nation’s history – during the early 1800s the Indian Removal Act sent our indigenous people on a trail of tears to designated reservations against their will. Learn about the intense wars involving Florida’s native peoples and the struggles to conquer our state.

Our expert historians have both authored books on the Seminole Wars and together have created a booklet of historic Seminole War battle sites across the entire state: The Seminole War Heritage Trail Carrabelle History Museum presents Chris Kimball who is also an experienced living history presenter and will be bringing maps and examples of the colorful clothing worn by our early Native Americans.

For more information, call 850-697-2141

Eastpoint Rib Cook-Off

The 15th Annual Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department Charity Rib Cookoff will be held Saturday, March 19th at the fire house in Eastpoint. The event is located at the corner of 6th St and CC Land Rd in Eastpoint, one block north of US Hwy 98. This year’s event promises to be the biggest with competitors cooking more ribs than *(See Cook-Off, Page Six)*

(Cook-Off, From Page Five)
ever. In addition to the cooking competition there will be a Silent auction



and live entertainment and, back by popular demand, the Liars Contest and face painting for the kids. Free admission and the gates open at 9:00 am. BBQ dinners will be served from 11:00 am till it's all gone. For more information, call 850-670-9000.

Authors in Apalach

The Apalachicola Municipal Library will host the 2016 Authors in Apalach event on Saturday, March 19, at the Apalachicola Center for History, Culture and Art at 86 Water Street, Apalachicola. This year's event theme is "Apalach in Fiction and in Fact" and will feature celebrated authors including Karen White, NYT bestselling author of classic Southern Fiction, with her forthcoming book "Flight Patterns" set in Apalachicola. Also featured is Michael Morris whose Southern Fiction has won a Christie Award as well as an award from the Southern Indie Booksellers. His novel "Man in the Blue Moon" is also set in Apalachicola. There will be over 20 authors, and we are happy to host an old favorite, Vivian Sherlock, former President of the Tallahassee Historical Society, and author of "The Fever Man" a longstanding biography of Dr. John Gorrie.

The event will be from 10AM to 5PM, with authors signing and selling books, and forums on different topics throughout the day. Again this year there will be a forum on

cooking and food writing with a new attendee Johnathon Barrett from Georgia. For more information, call 850-653-8436 or go to www.cityofapalachicola.com/Library.cfm

Thanks to the Franklin County Tourism Council for Upcoming Events

Apalachicola Center for History, Culture and Art

FOLK FANTASTIC - The Collection of Lee and Randy Sewell Featuring Charlie "The Tin Man" Lucas Exhibited folk art from February 04 – April 02

Long before self-taught artists' works entered the collectable hot zone, Lee and Randy Sewell had welcomed hundreds of handmade creations into their Atlanta and St. George Island homes. Randy began collecting contemporary folk art at estate sales. He has hundreds of whirligigs, decorative objects that spin in the wind, and hundreds of birdhouses. For fun, Randy builds fanciful birdhouses shaped like quirky American roadside attractions that popped up in the '40s and '50s: chili bowl-shaped restaurants, aluminum-sided diners, and more. Lee enjoys rustling through flea markets but isn't as prodigious a collector as Randy. Even at sixty miles an hour, Randy Sewell can spot American folk art. He scours lawns telltale signs of the self-taught artist: whitewashed tire fencing, painted tree trunks, or funky garden ornaments. A collector since the '70s, Randy purchased some of his twig furniture collection right off people's front porches. His collection includes miniature twig chairs, probably made as doll furniture. Sometimes, repeat visits are needed to seal a deal. But by that ***(See Folk Fantastic, Page Seven)***

(Folk Fantastic, From Page Six)

point, Randy has collected more than folk art, he is connected with another artist.

Many of Charlie Lucas's sculptures stand along a rural road and in the fields around his house. His art is a convergence of the techniques of the blacksmith, the quilter, and the basket maker in his life. He is a modern day root sculpture. But because the hands of his male antecedents bent, twisted, and hammered horseshoes, wagon wheels, and automobile engines, Lucas's creations grow from the junk heaps of the industrial age. Charlie Lucas Born in 1951, said, "I only bring metal home that I see something in. I don't just collect junk, I look for pieces with character in them, and they show themselves to me." His art was exhibited at the Mint Gallery in Atlanta in Feb and March of 2015.

Chef's Sampler Picture



From left, standing: Jackie Bell, Eric Roberts, Sherri Roberts, Phyllis Vitale-Lewis, Vito Bell & Jimmy Lewis. Sitting are Paul & Gail Riegelmayr as they pose at the Chef's Sampler in Apalachicola on February 28. There were many other Club members in attendance. It was good to see Mason Bean

at the Sampler after his hip replacement walking without crutches.

Challenge to Civic Club Members

The Board of Directors has challenged Club members to reduce the ecological footprint by bringing their own reusable plates, flatware and glasses to the Club meetings.

Please visit our website

www.stgeorgeislandcivicclub.org for the latest news from St. George Island and the surrounding area. *(Note new website address)* Email us at sgicivicclub@gmail.com

It's time to renew dues for 2016

Dues not paid by April 30 will drop your name from the active member list. Dues are \$20 per person and can be mailed to SGI Civic Club, P.O. Box 451, Eastpoint, FL 32328. Checks may be made to SGI Civic Club.

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