



The Jekyll Journal

SPRING/SUMMER 2024

Inside this issue:

The President's Corner	1/2
Tiffany Window Rededication	2
2024 Programs	3/4
2024 Auction Report	4
From the Preservationist's Desk	5
Membership Report	6
Financial Report	6
Legacy Program	7

The President's Corner...

Ruthmary Williams

The Friends of Historic Jekyll Island has had another busy winter and spring. Once again, the Thom Schuyler Benefit Concert, held in February, was sold out. Thank you, Thom, for your generosity in donating the proceeds to FOHJI's Internship Program. The Members Only Annual Meeting was held in the Paddock area (outdoor classroom) of Mosaic. The Board thought it was important to showcase a project that FOHJI helped fund. It was a lovely evening (meaning not buggy), and attendees had plenty of time to socialize.

At the annual meeting, we welcomed our new Board members. Debbie Boyd will continue on the Board for one more term. Larsen Andersen, who replaced Rob Stewart after his resignation due to personal reasons, will start his first full term in September. Jim McKenna will also start his first full term in September.

We say goodbye to Carol Fritz who served on the Board for two terms, a total of six years. Carol was a valuable asset to FOHJI. Among her contributions, she served on the Auction Committee in several capacities, including auction chair in 2021. We also want to recognize Rob Stewart's contributions to FOHJI. In addition to serving on the Hospitality Committee for several years, Rob was instrumental in the success of the auction, both the in-person auction and the online auction. He was the IT person for the online auction, and he continues to serve on the auction's website sub-committee as a volunteer. Many thanks to both Carol and Rob for their service to the Friends of Historic Jekyll Island.

Continued on page 2...

Continued from page 1...

Remember, you don't have to be a board member to volunteer for some of the committees, so please consider getting involved in one of our core committees: Auction, Dinner at the Club, Hospitality, Membership, Communications, Programs, and Strategic Planning.

Programs Chair Bruce Piatek and his committee once again have some interesting programs planned for 2024-2025. Check out the **tentative schedule** found in the Programs Report, and please be sure to read the other reports in this journal as they have important information.

Great news! We will be unveiling a new, secure website in the next couple of months so stay tuned!

In closing, on behalf of the Friends of Historic Jekyll Island, I want to thank you for your continued support and wish you a fun and safe summer! See you in September!

Respectfully,

Ruthmary Williams, *FOHJI President*

Tiffany Window Rededication

Ruthmary Williams

The Friends of Historic Jekyll Island was pleased to be invited to the Tiffany Window Rededication on Good Friday, March 29, 123 years after the initial dedication of the window. The Tiffany Window Conservancy Project was dear to our hearts, and we were happy to be part of its celebration. Speakers included JIA Director Mark Williams, JIA Museum Curator Andrea Marroquin, Neal Vogel of Restoric LLC, and Reverend Wright Culpepper.



Programs Report

Bruce Piatek, Program Chair

Our first program of 2024 featured Dr. Keith Ashley, an archaeologist from the University of North Florida. Dr. Ashley enthusiastically presented his discoveries from his multi-year excavations on Talbot Island. There he discovered and explored Sarabay, the town of the Mocama speaking Timucua Natives. Sarabay was discussed in 16th-century French documents. His presentation generated many interesting questions from the attendees. His presentation can be viewed on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1O9S8wasMsQ>

In March, Mosaic's own Lucy Hatcher presented Glynn County's Role in World War II. Her program was interesting and educational. If you missed attending the event in person, you can watch it in its entirety on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twqubj76vME>.

Our last program of the 2023-2024 season was a trolley trip to Horton House. We met at Mosaic to board the trolley for the ride to Horton House. On the ride, Patrick Carmody provided an interesting talk about the history of Horton House and its various owners. Once we arrived, he talked about the house itself and how to make Georgia tabby; he also mentioned the crops, livestock, and brewery of Major Horton. We then walked across the street to the cemetery to learn about the people buried there. Yank Moore then took over the program to discuss the erosion in the area and what's being done to slow it. On the ride back to Mosaic, we were entertained with Sea Shanty songs; some of us even joined in on the chorus of "Blow the Man Down".



Patrick Carmody



Yank Moore

Tentative 2024/2025 FOHJI Programs on the following page...

2024/2025 FOHJI Programs - Tentative Schedule

Bruce Piatek, Program Chair

All programs start at 6:30 and are held at the Tack Room of Mosaic on the third Thursday of the month, unless otherwise noted.

September 19, 2024	Meet the new director of Historic Resources, Will Wagner
October 17, 2024	Cumberland Island Tour
November 21, 2024	An update on the Baker-Crane Carriage House Project presented by Taylor Davis, JIA Preservationist
February 20, 2025	Griffin Loftus will speak about the Gulla Gechee culture
March 20, 2025	Famed local photographer Carol Ann Wages will present "Photography of Jekyll Island"
May 15, 2025	Historic District Projects/Needs plus a tour of FOHJI Projects

2024 Auction Report

Ruthmary Williams, Auction Chair

I want to thank the Auction Committee, our solicitors, donors, and bidders for making the 2024 Online Auction a success. We gained some new and exciting donations, plus we got back some of our previous donors who were missing in 2023; these included Delaney's, Skippers Fish Camp, JI Club Resort, Lady Jane Cruise, Tideland's Kayak Tour, Southeast Outfitters, and Griffin Bike Shop. We netted \$53,326.81; the proceeds are earmarked for Phase 2 of the Baker-Crane Carriage House Project.

Out of the 171 bidders, the majority were from Georgia (59%) with approximately 23% from Jekyll Island and 36% from other parts of the state; 41% were from other states plus one from Canada. There were 71 winning bidders: 33.8% were from Jekyll Island; 29.5% from other parts of Georgia; and approximately 36.6% from other states. (This data is based on the addresses provided by the bidders.)

This year we recognized our solicitors, who do the time-consuming work of contacting donors, with a small gift of appreciation. We appreciate all of you!

We do need more solicitors so please consider volunteering to contact donors for the 2025 Online Auction.

Thank you for your support.

From the Preservationist's Desk

Taylor Davis

The Internship program is getting off to a great start! We have two interns, Charlotte and Juliet. Charlotte is joining us from the College of Charleston, and Juliet is joining us from Roger Williams University in Rhode Island. We've got quite a few projects planned for the summer.



We also have received some tools for the Preservation shop through a generous donation from Tim and Christie Kinsey. A dust collection system and extendable sander will help us immensely with our preservation projects, so we thank them for their donation.

Membership Report

Pamela Harris, Membership Chair

The 2023-2024 season of FOHJI ends with 157 memberships, which includes 34 new memberships. The 157 memberships represent 260 individuals who support us in our mission of the preservation and interpretation of Jekyll Island's natural and historical heritage, making it available to those in the future. Thank you for being a part of this important organization.

The current membership card expires June 30, 2024, but the trolley passes do not expire. Renewal letters for the 2024-2025 year will be sent out in the next few weeks and again in July via email.

The Board voted for some Membership changes that go into effect on November 1, 2024.

- The Individual and Family levels will be combined into a Supporting Partner with 4 trolley passes and annual dues of \$50.
- The Preservation Partner will increase to \$150 and will continue to include 6 passes.
- You can renew your membership at the current rates if you do so prior to November 1.
- Any questions can be directed to jeekyllfriends@outlook.com.

Financial Report

Tim Kinsey, Treasurer

A MILESTONE HAS BEEN REACHED!

With two distributions made in April 2024, your generosity has enabled FOHJI to have paid out over ONE MILLION DOLLARS since 1987 for the preservation and interpretation of Jekyll Island's natural and historical heritage. CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU for your continued support.

The million dollar mark was reached when our remaining payment of \$37,869.90 was made to the Jekyll Island Authority for the conservancy of the Tiffany Window at Faith Chapel along with the \$50,000.00 payment to JIA for Phase 1 of the Baker-Crane Carriage House Project, which was for stabilizing the building.

The remaining balances of our checking and money market accounts through April 2024 are \$255,338.19. This balance includes your participation in our three fundraisers (Annual Dinner, Auction, and Thom Schuyler Concert) which netted over \$62,000.00.

Each issue of the *Jekyll Journal* will include a summary of FOHJI finances.

As a member, you are entitled to know all details about the operation of the organization. Should you wish to receive a financial report or minutes from a FOHJI board meeting, send a request to:
jekyllfriends@outlook.com

-LEGACY PROGRAM-

FOHJI now has a LEGACY PROGRAM for planned giving that makes it possible for you to donate through your will, investment portfolio, charitable trust or other beneficiary designations. We encourage you to support FOHJI's mission of preserving the historical nature of Jekyll Island through these tax deductible avenues.

One of the easiest ways to give is a one-time donation of a specified amount that may be provided through a single or multi-payment structure. Donors have the flexibility of providing contributions as a recurring monthly automatic disbursement to FOHJI.

Additional avenues of giving include:

- Designating FOHJI as a beneficiary in your will or life insurance policy;
- Providing for a distribution to FOHJI from your charitable trust;
- Transferring stocks, bonds and other securities to FOHJI for sale and the benefit of FOHJI's projects;
- Providing a restricted contribution to a specific FOHJI project that you would like to see move forward;
- Designating FOHJI to benefit from the sale of real estate or specified personal property.

Thank you in advance for considering these avenues of supporting FOHJI's mission. If you are interested in one of these methods of providing support, please consult your financial planner and/or tax consultant, if needed. Then contact FOHJI's Treasurer, Tim Kinsey at 912-635-3620 or e-mail Tim at 773trk@gmail.com.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC JEKYLL ISLAND

P.O. BOX 13031

Jekyll Island, GA 31527

REMEMBER YOUR RENEWAL.....

The FOHJI Board has changed our membership year to the fiscal year starting July 1. All of our money goes toward historic preservation endeavors and we need your continued participation. You might consider increasing your level of membership. The various levels are:

- Single Membership \$ 25.00
- Family Membership \$ 40.00
- Preservation Partner \$ 100.00
- Business /Sponsor \$ 250.00
- Patron \$ 500.00
- Benefactor \$ 1,000.00

There would be a tax advantage to upping your membership. If you are not now a member of FOHJI, we welcome you to become a part of our group. Make checks payable to FOHJI and mail to P.O. Box 13031, Jekyll Island, GA, 31527 and you will receive membership information by return mail.

2024-2025 Board of Directors

President— Ruthmary Williams
Vice President—Thom Schuyler
Secretary—Debbie Boyd
Treasurer—Tim Kinsey

Members

Term 2025: Tom Alexander, Pamela Harris, David Lodge, Bruce Piatek, Justin Wilbur, Susan Williams
Term 2026: Ronald Franke, Shelly Gardner, Bradley Hoyt, Tim Kinsey, Thom Schuyler, Ruthmary Williams
Term 2027: Larsen Anderson, Debbie Boyd, Jim McKenna

Jekyll Journal

Editor - Ruthmary Williams
Graphic Designer - Joan Samuelson