



The Jekyll Journal

SPRING/SUMMER 2023

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The President's Corner...

Tom Pfaffenbach

As we approach our summer break from past months of service to our community, it is important to recognize and thank past FOHJI Board members. Sarah Tallu Schuyler served two terms; during her tenure, she created our logo and served on the annual dinner committee. She also assisted the hospitality committee. Terry Frey most recently served as the Program Chair, and we thank him for planning and organizing very interesting speakers. Rita Thompson, whose term ended in 2022, remained as an advisor and chair for the annual dinner; we greatly appreciate her assistance in 2023. We cannot thank them enough for their years of dedicated service. We welcome Ron Franke and Shelly Gardner to our Board; their tenure will start in September.

We are pleased to report that we have remained very active in our support for the ongoing projects of the Historical Resources which include the stabilization of the Baker-Crane Carriage House, construction of the outdoor education space at the Mosaic Center, cleaning and restoration of the Tiffany Window, and expansion of the Chuck Diefenderfer Internship Program. We are continuing the effort to find a home for the Fiore sculptures and molds, and our "Self-Guided Walking Tour" guidebook has been a success. We especially want to thank everyone

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involved with the On-line Auction. The overwhelming success resulted in approximately \$50,000 in contributions. These funds, along with the annual dinner and the Thom Schuyler concert, are dedicated to the Baker-Crane Carriage House rehabilitation and adaptive-use project.

Activities will begin in earnest in September although Membership renewal and Strategic Planning will continue throughout the summer. 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. The Friends of Historic Jekyll Island looks forward to expanding our commitment to the preservation of the rich history of Jekyll Island.

Finally, I would like to express what a privilege it is to be the president of this **great organization**.

Tom Pfaffenbach, President**-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.

2023 Auction Report

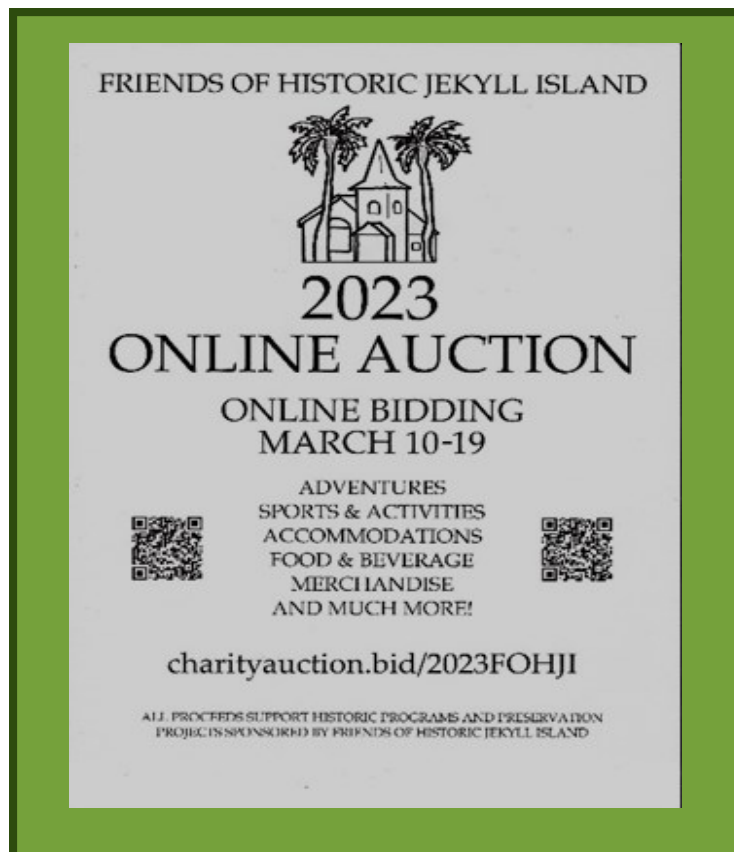
Ruthmary Williams, Auction Chair

The 2023 Online Auction was a great success! Much better than expected since we had fewer solicitors, fewer auction items, and fewer bidders compared to 2022. We grossed \$51,793.00, and after expenses, we netted \$49,319.03. The funds from this year's auction were earmarked for the Baker-Crane Carriage House rehabilitation; the first phase of this long-term project is the stabilization of the building.

Thank you to Auction Committee members Debbie Boyd, Carol Fritz, Tim Kinsey, Justin Wilbur, Rob Stewart, Ted Fleshman, and Sara Cant. A HUGE THANK YOU to all our solicitors and donors; without you there would be no auction. I also want to send a thank you to all our bidders who made the auction a financial success.

Out of the 190 bidders, 60 -65 registered in the last three days of the auction. Not surprisingly, the majority of bidders were from Georgia (66%) with 34% from other states plus one military address. There were 73 winning bidders: 31.5% were from Jekyll Island; 37% from other parts of Georgia; and 31.5% from other states. (This data is based on the addresses provided by the bidders.)

We look forward to the 2024 Online Auction being as successful! I hope some of you will consider volunteering to assist with the auction



Historical Resources Report

Tom Alexander, Director of Historical Resources

The Tiffany Window conservation is complete as to cleaning and repairing the window itself. The work was completed by John Bowe and Rosemary Shepherd of Kekekabic Studios. The window will be reinstalled in late summer following repairs being made for its framing at Faith Chapel.

The stabilization of the Baker-Crane Carriage House is in progress, starting in May.

Josie Van Tassel, the most recent intern, completed her rotation as of April 13. Two new interns have been selected and will start in June. The Chuck Diefenderfer Internship Program is financed by FOHJI.

The outdoor classroom is progressing and is still scheduled for completion this summer.



John Bowe and Rosemary Shepherd of Kekekabic Studios explain the Tiffany Window restoration process to FOHJI Board Members..

Thom Schuyler Concert

Ruthmary Williams, Communications Chair

The Friends of Historic Jekyll Island wants to thank Thom Schuyler for his benefit concert, which was enjoyed by all. He mixed his original songs with “Dad” jokes, which totally entertained the audience. All proceeds from the concert went to the Baker-Crane Carriage House rehabilitation project.

FOHJI is very honored to have Thom as a board member. Over the course of his career as a songwriter, he has created a catalog of tunes recorded by over 200 artists including five #1 songs, five other Top-5 songs and five additional Top-10 songs; he was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2011.

Thank you, Thom, for honoring us with your benefit concert and your service as a board member.



At the February benefit concert, Thom Schuyler entertained the audience with his original songs.

Programs Report

Bruce Piatek, Chair

We completed another successful year of FOHJI programs. We had a series of interesting talks over the past months, and I want to thank all our presenters.

In February, Pam Mueller spoke not only about her most recent book, *The Sky Is My Home*, but also about her writing process. She followed her presentation with a book signing. In March, FOHJI welcomed Michael Seibert, the Chief of Resource Management at Fort Frederica National Monument and Cumberland Island National Seashore. His presentation “Reinvigoration of Archeology- Fort Frederica NM” generated many questions and interest in revisiting Fort Federica. Our final program was well attended even with some rain showers. Reverend Dave Hanson spoke about the life and tribulations of John Westley during his time in Georgia from March 1736 to January 1737.

The hospitality committee made each talk better by providing delicious refreshments and wine during the post-talk socializing.

I’m in the process of planning next season’s programs; our theme will be “Everything Jekyll Island”. I’m working with Tom Alexander, Director of Historical Resources, to develop programs that will focus on Jekyll Island’s history. He and his staff have a wealth of knowledge about our island, and they have the ability to bring history to life. Tom has suggested that we may include visits to historic buildings and locations as part of the programs. I hope to arrange a presentation on the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor which includes Jekyll Island. And, I hope we all learn something new and have some fun.

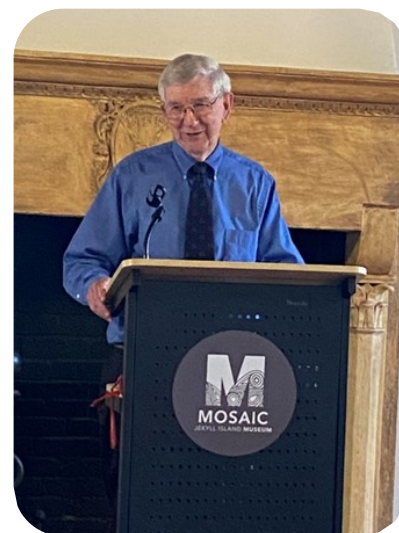
See you in September!



Pam Mueller answers questions about her writing process.



Michael Seibert talks about the recent archaeological projects at Fort Federica on St. Simons Island.



Rev. Dave Hanson, retired, tells of John and Charles Wesley’s trials and tribulations while serving in Savannah and St. Simons.

Financial Report

Tim Kinsey, Treasurer

At April's end, FOHJI had a total of \$271,303.10 in checking and money market accounts held in Ameris Bank. Our successful fundraisers this year (Annual Dinner, Auction, Schuyler Concert) netted over \$50,000.00, which met our goal to fund the Baker-Crane foundation stabilization project.

Other projects we have approved for funding include the Tiffany Window conservation and two historical preservation internships. Approximately \$165,000.00 remains in our coffers for future projects, benefiting Jekyll Island's history.

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@gmail.com

Membership Report

Pam Harris, Membership Chair

FOHJI currently has 141 memberships. This represents 235 individual members; 23 of these memberships are new. Renewal letters will be sent out the end of May for the 2023-2024 year.

As you meet new friends, please remember to offer them a membership pamphlet or tell them how to join us on **About Us**, found on the Friends of Historic Jekyll Island website: **friendsofhistoricjekyll.org**.

We are in the process of updating the membership brochure, which we hope to have available in September. Thank you to Joan Samuelson for her assistance with this project.

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.

2023-2024 Board of Directors

President— Tom Pfaffenback
 Vice President—Ruthmary Williams
 Secretary—Debbie Boyd
 Treasurer—Tim Kinsey

Members

Term 2024: Debbie Boyd, Carol Fritz, Rob Stewart
Term 2025: Pamela Harris, David Lodge, Tom Pfaffenbach, Bruce Piatek, Thom Schuyler, Susan Williams
Term 2026: Shelly Gardner, Bradley Hoyt, Tim Kinsey, Ronald Franke, Ruthmary Williams,

Jekyll Journal

Editor—Ruthmary Williams
 Graphic Designer—Joan Samuelson