

# The Traveller

A Newsletter of the Bartram Trail Conference

Fall, 2017

## 2017 St. Johns River Bartram Frolic a success despite torrential rains

*Janice Mahaffey*

The first annual St. Johns River Bartram Frolic took place on September 30 and October 1 in Palatka, Florida, and was a grand success despite the 5 ½ inches of rain. The



*William Bartram (Dean Quigley) and the Long Warrior (Jim Sawgrass)*

*William Bartram (Mike Adams) enthralled local students.*



event was originally designed as a recreational event to feature the Bartram National Recreation Trail in Putnam County that evolved into an educational and recreational event. The partnering with the Putnam County School District, the St. Johns Water Management District, Georgia Pacific, and the St. Johns River Keeper was created to educate second graders at the St. Johns River Center during the week of the Frolic. The students were thrilled to meet living historical actors, portraying the “Long Warrior,” Billy Bartram, and the trader, “Job Wiggins.”

At the Friday evening “Frolic” dignitaries, our sponsors, vendors, committee members, historical actors, and others enjoyed wonderful food, rum, music and company.

Saturday was an opportunity for children to participate in the “Passport to the Past” activity, designed to increase their knowledge at ten science and history booths. A sponsor funded the Passport activity and a special tee shirt was given to the first 100 entrants. All who finished received a Bartram patch and a certificate of completion.

Saturday began with at least 400 students and parents passing through the St. Johns River Center. We were hopeful that 2,500 attendees would attend our first St. Johns River Bartram Frolic.

Other events were spared the storm. Paddlers showed up and two tours were completed, the Welaka Springs Route and the Spalding’s Lower Store Route.

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*Sunday afternoon symposium*



# Mother-Daughter Team Still Working on Behalf of Bartram



Lynn Bozone at the opening of the Stockton Heritage Museum.

The Baldwin County Commission (Alabama) honored Lynn Hastie Bozone as “Citizen of the Year” for her efforts to highlight the unique history and heritage that North Baldwin County has to offer.

In addition to supporting many efforts such as Sawmill Days and the Stockton Heritage Museum, Lynn and her late mother, Mrs. Davida Hastie, have brought attention to William Bartram’s route through the area. In



Jacob Lowery and Davida Hastie at the Bartram Trail marker in Stockton, Alabama, in 2007.

2007, when the Bartram Trail Conference was held at Five Rivers Delta Resource Center, Lynn and her mother were there. It was especially memorable to those who attended from all across the country to be able to see Bartram’s famous Evening Primrose (*Oenothera grandiflora*) in bloom on one of the BTC field trips in north Baldwin County.

Lynn and Davida teamed up to educate their neighbors over the years about north Baldwin’s role in Bartram’s travels, including the placement

of a Bartram Trail historic marker and the designation of a 200-mile long Bartram Canoe Trail. According to Kathryn Braund, “Mrs. Hastie organized the beginnings of the canoe trail many years before the Alabama Department of Conservation really got on it and made it the spectacular thing it has since become. Without her vision and persistence, it would not have happened.”

The *Traveller* is grateful to Ann Biggs-Williams for alerting us to this honor for Lynn. ❁



Davida Hastie at the dedication of the Bartram Canoe Trail in 1976.



*Oenothera grandiflora*

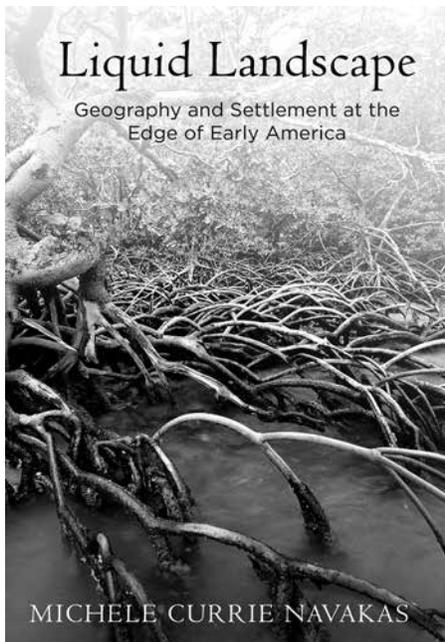
# Fothergill Award Supports New Book

by Dorinda G. Dallmeyer

Michele Currie Navakas, who received a Fothergill Award in 2008 to support her dissertation research, has just published “Liquid Landscape: Geography and Settlement at the Edge of Early America” by the University of Pennsylvania Press.

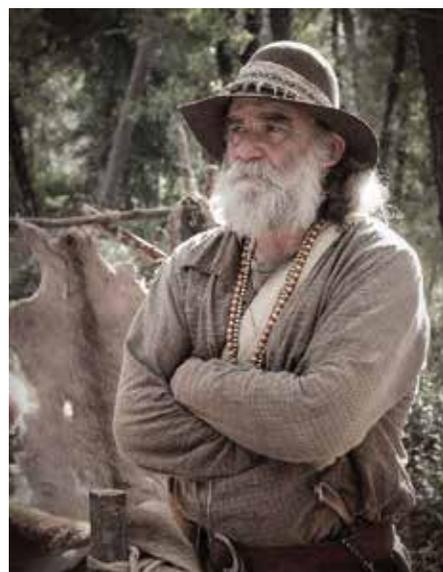
Michele wrote, “The Fothergill Award was a very welcome sign of endorsement when this book was a dissertation that I was then completing at UC Irvine. I remain grateful to the Bartram Trail Conference for its early support and enthusiasm, and was glad to thank the Conference in my Acknowledgements.”

Among her acknowledgements are her expression of thanks to BTC friend and expert on southeastern historical maps, the late Dr. Louis De Vorsey, who relocated the site of the Great Buffalo Lick in northeast Georgia. Dr. Navakas dedicates an entire chapter on historic maps of Florida. While many natives to the southeast are familiar with swamps, unstable ground, and shifting shorelines, early colonists were vexed by its instability. Reviewer John Matthews of Boston University called the book a “re-



markable, fascinating achievement.” According to Matthews, “In *Liquid Landscape*, Michele Currie Navakas demonstrates with brilliant originality how the topographical distinctiveness of Florida’s ‘unstable ground’ generated counter-conceptions of roots and boundaries, historical exceptionality, ideals of possession and property, and much else during the formation of national identity over the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.” ❀

Frolic, *continued from page 1*



*Job Wiggins (Robert Wilson)*

On Sunday, a Bartram stroll was held at Mount Royal, featuring a Quaker reading of Bartram’s prayer.

Almost 100 signed up for the Pride of Palatka river cruises. The St. Johns Riverkeeper and the Sunset & Wine Cruise were popular.

Sunday was still wet and breezy for the Bartram Symposium & Art Show, with 65 brave souls enduring torrential downpours. Our speakers were Dr. Thomas Hallock, on “Armchair Traveling with William Bartram,” Dick Franz, on “Bartram’s Flowers on the St. Johns River,” Irv Quitmyer, on “Hunters, Fishers, and Gathers of Lake Monroe Outlet Midden,” our own Brad Sanders on the “The National Bartram Heritage Corridor,” and lastly, artist Dean Quigly, interpreting his paintings of Native Americans.

The Bartram Committee of Putnam has decided to honor William Bartram’s birthday by holding a Spring Symposium on April 20th, 2018, at the Ravine Gardens State Park, in Palatka. Hope you can make it.

Please check out the link to the Symposium at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbxkmLDc0hw>. ❀

## Acceptance of applications for next Fothergill Award will be open in mid-January, 2018.

One or more fellowships of \$500 are awarded annually to an advanced graduate student or recent Ph.D. whose research promises to lead to publication of a book, article, dissertation, or other substantive product in studies related to William Bartram. Appropriate areas of scholarship include but are not limited to the natural sciences, history of science, literary studies, journalism, history, biography, archaeology, art, photography, and ethnohistory. Recipients are asked to make an informal report on work to be published in the BTC newsletter, *The Traveller*, and/or a presentation at the biennial meeting of the BTC (at the discretion of the program committee). Deadline for receipt of applications is in March of each year, with the announcement of the award in mid-March.

# William Bartram Heritage Corridor Project

## Representative Hice tours the Bartram Trail in Oglethorpe County, Georgia

by Brad Sanders

July 21 was a typically hot summer day, but that did not stop fans of William Bartram from hosting Representative Jody Hice on a tour of William Bartram's travels through Oglethorpe County. The tour was organized by myself and District Director Josh Findlay to promote the Bartram Heritage Concept to Hice, who represents the 10th district of Georgia.

The tour began in the community of Stephens at Antioch Baptist Church, where there was plentiful shade and granite tables to spread out the maps and books. The entourage included Representative Jody Hice; Amy Stone, Economic Development Director for Oglethorpe County; Linda Helmly, President of Historic Oglethorpe; Brad Sanders, board member of the Bartram Trail Conference; Josh Findlay, District Director for the Tenth District; and Diane Sanders.

When William Bartram entered Oglethorpe County in June, 1773, he was travelling with the survey party that was mapping land the Creek and Cherokee Indians were ceding to the colony of Georgia. Governor James Wright named this land the New Purchase. In 1777 the Georgia Assembly reorganized the New Purchase as Wilkes County. Unfortunately, there is no existing formal description of the survey. Fortunately, we have William Bartram's contemporary account and a map created by Philip Yonge.

After reviewing the purpose and route of Bartram's travels in Oglethorpe County the touring party travelled from Stephens to Cherokee Corner, following the route of the 1773 boundary of Georgia through



Left to right; Josh Findlay, Amy Stone, Lindy Helmly, Representative Jody Hice, Brad Sanders.

Crawford and along Smokey Road. At Arnoldsville we viewed the Cherokee Corner monument and the Bartram Trail historical marker at Moss Creek and the tour ended there.

In Oglethorpe County Bartram and the survey party travelled along the Lower Cherokee Path through Philomath to the Great Buffalo Lick and from there they passed along high ground that crossed over the headwaters of streams falling into the Broad River. Bartram wrote of following the Great Ridge that divided the waters of the Broad River from the Oconee to a "mark'd tree" that was to be the western point of Georgia. This marked tree was, of course, Cherokee Corner. This Indian trail that followed the Great Ridge was an ideal place to put a railroad and it was chosen as the route for the Athens Branch of the Georgia Railroad, completed in 1841. This route is now being developed as a recreation trail, the Firefly Trail. The trail will follow the old railroad bed

that coincides with Bartram's route, and when completed, will go from Union Point to Athens. The section between Stephens and Winterville has significant historical importance as the former western boundary of Georgia, an international boundary, and as the route of the celebrated American botanist, artist, and author William Bartram.

## Contact with Sen. Bill Nelson

Michelle Barth, regional director for Senator Bill Nelson of Florida, attended a reception for the St. Johns River Bartram Frolic in Palatka September 29 of this year. She met with local members of the Bartram Trail Conference during the Friday evening reception and was very enthusiastic about our William Bartram Heritage Corridor project. Local members of the Bartram Trail Conference will be meeting with her in the near future.

# Update on the documentary “Cultivating the Wild: William Bartram’s Travels”

by Dorinda G. Dallmeyer

Since the Baton Rouge Conference, we have filmed Philip Juras at Anthony Shoals painting the shoal spider lilies (Bartram’s *Pancratium fluitans*) in luxuriant bloom at dusk and dawn as well as Drew Lanham in Athens inspecting the bird and mammal collection at the Georgia Natural History Museum and in a Piedmont hardwood forest. My co-producer Eric Breitenbach has undertaken the challenging trip not once but twice to film James Holland at the giant cypress near Ft. Barrington in the vicinity of where the Bartrams located *Franklinia*. The film should be released in the summer of 2018.

Many thanks to the BTC for your interest and support for a project that has soldiered on despite two hurricanes, tornados, twisted knees and ankles, vehicles mired axle-deep in sand, and an occasional drone crash. We are particularly grateful for Anna Humphries who has juggled her duties as treasurer handling our grants with the demands of her studies in graduate school. ❁



Retired Altamaha Riverkeeper James Holland and producer Eric Breitenbach at giant cypress on the Altamaha.



Philip Juras and shoals spider lilies at Anthony Shoals on the Broad River, Georgia



Digging out the car on the Bartram Trail.



Drew Lanham and director of photography Scott Auerbach at Little St. Simons Island, Georgia.

# Meet our new treasurers Ken and Janice Mahaffey

Ken Mahaffey was born in Winter Haven, a second generation Floridian. He attended local schools there and after graduating with honors, he went first to Florida State University, and then transferred to the University of Florida, where he graduated with a Bachelor’s Degree in Building Construction.

Ken worked with power companies, and was brought to Putnam County to work. While in the area he became involved with back-packing and canoeing, with local Boy Scout Troops.

He was transferred back to South Florida and, after a short period of time, quit his position and returned to Putnam County to pursue a new vocation in an “outdoor wilderness adventure” outfitting business. Eventually, he and his partners dissolved the business and he began a career as a public servant. He first served as the Scout Executive Director, then as the Building Official of the City of Palatka. He later served as the Chief Appraiser for the county and eventually was elected as Putnam County Tax Collector. He retired for this position at the end of December 2012.

Janice was born in Virginia and moved to Putnam County with her  
*continued on page 6*

## Save the Date

October, 2019  
the Bartram Trail Conference  
will meet in  
Montgomery, Alabama

# Bartram Blueway planned for north shore of Lake Pontchartrain

Directors of the Board of the LSU Hilltop Arboretum, Randy Harelson, Peggy Coates, and Michele Deshotels, came to evaluate the Corridor Management Plans of the Lacombe Heritage Center for the Bartram Wilderness Adventure & Resource Restoration Trail and Blueway (BWARRTB).

They have already installed eight historical markers to William Bartram in the Baton Rouge/Pointe Coupee area where Bartram visited in 1775. Out of five possible Bartram sites in St. Tammany Parish, they selected the Big Branch Marsh at the end of Lake Road as a site for another official marker on the Bartram aquatic blueway.

According to the plan developed by the Lacombe Heritage Center in 2007, the BWARRTB will be one of two aquatic blueways along the Northshore that will include Bayous Bonfouca, Lacombe, Cane and Castigne, as well as the Rivers Pearl, Tchefuncte, Tangipahoa, and Amite.

It is part of the plan to connect with



Left to right: Michele Deshotels, Randy Harelson, Peggy Coates, and Tom Aicklen.

the Bartram Trail in Mississippi and eventually to a seven-state Bartram Heritage Corridor that will become a Lakes and Rivers National Heritage Area across fourteen Florida and River Parishes. ❀

Faded Bartram Trail sign on Fort Dale Road in Butler County, Alabama.

Photograph by Brad Sanders



Mahaffey, *continued from page 5*

parents in early 1959. She attended local schools and, after graduating from the local Community College, transferred to Florida State University with a degree in Visual Arts.

Her career was with Putnam County Government as County Archivist, and later Reference Librarian and local Genealogist. As Archivist she became familiar with the Bartrams. During a 1977 attempt to establish the Bartram Trail of Florida, she, Ken, and a few others served on the Bartram Trail of Florida committee. During this time the committee approached the local State Representative and was able to establish a portion of State Road 13 in St. Johns County as the “Bartram Highway.”

Janice preceeded Ken in retirement and became involved with the Putnam County Bartram Trail Committee. In 2013, soon after joining the committee and with a letter of introduction, they visited the Natural History Museum in London, where they met with Dr. Judith Magee, curator of the Special Collections, who graciously authorized the digital images of William Bartram’s illustrations of the St. Johns River to be used by the committee (with a few stipulations).

Ken and Janice have been married since 1979. They and have three adult children and one grandchild. They reside in the area that was once known as “Rollestown” where they enjoy traveling and photography. ❀

## Bartram Trail Conference Board 2018–2020

*President*, T. R. Henderson

*Vice President*, Sam Carr

*Treasurers*, Ken & Janice Mahaffey

*Interim Secretary*, Chuck Spornick

*Board Members:*

Brad Sanders (*Membership Chair*),

Dorinda Dallmeyer (*Newsletter*

*Editor*), Joel Fry, Kathryn Braund,

Matt Jennings

# Through Bartram's Eyes

## An Immersion in the Nature, Art, and History of William Bartram's Georgia Coast

March 7-9, 2018, Little St. Simons Island



*Oyster banks of the Altamaha, by Philip Juras*

Come explore coastal Georgia's flora and fauna through the lens of famed 18th century naturalist, artist, and writer, William Bartram. Join guest experts and Little St. Simons Island staff as we retrace part of Bartram's famous journey and visit coastal landscapes that remain intact and similar to the way Bartram described them in his journal, *The Travels of William Bartram*.

The three-day event will begin with an optional guided boat trip from Hampton River Marina, up one of Georgia's wildest and most protected rivers, the Altamaha. Guests will experience this grand river system much the way that Bartram did in 1773. "The winding banks of the river, and the high projecting promontories, unfolded fresh scenes of grandeur and sublimity." The boat ride includes a stop along Hammersmith Creek at Altama Plantation, now conserved by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and The Nature Conservancy. At Altama, the group will disembark from the boat for a short hike



Athens, Georgia based artist Philip Juras's paintings are an expression of his desire to experience, understand, and celebrate the natural world.



Dorinda G. Dallmeyer, director of the Environmental Ethics Certificate Program at the University of Georgia.

through some of the property's diverse plant communities. We will take time to stop and learn about individual plants and animals as we explore along the way. The Altamaha River boat trip will be limited to the first 20 applicants.

Guests will depart by boat from Altama and travel to Little St. Simons Island for a two-night stay. While on Little St. Simons Island, we will explore the wonderfully intact and varied natural landscapes of the island along with some of their characteristic plants and animal, all the while comparing them to Bartram's descriptions of Georgia's wild barrier islands from the 1770s. Guests will also learn about current conservation efforts that are taking place to protect the sensitive habitats and the rare animals that inhabit them.

We are very fortunate to have an impressive selection of accomplished experts with backgrounds in ecology, conservation, botany, writing, and art. All of these modern day naturalists have been influenced heavily by William Bartram over the course of their careers. These experts will join our knowledgeable staff naturalists in sharing details relative to their areas of expertise and making connections to Bartram's writings and art throughout the event. They will also be our featured evening lecturers for both nights.

The two night event is \$1250 per room double occupancy plus tax and service charge. In addition to all of the event activities, the rate is all-inclusive of lodging, meals, beverages including soft drinks, beer and wine and all island activities including guided naturalist excursions as well as boat transfers to and from the island. Visit our website [www.littlestsimonsisland.com](http://www.littlestsimonsisland.com) or give us a call at 866-450-9677 for reservations or additional information.



Linda Chafin, conservation botanist with the science and conservation program at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia.



Christi Lambert, Coastal and Marine Conservation Director for the Nature Conservancy in Georgia.

The Traveller  
c/o Brad Sanders  
189 Hidden Hills Lane  
Athens, GA 30605

# Bartram Trail Conference Membership Form

Annual Member Dues  
Please check one.

- Individual \$25
- Family \$30
- Student \$10
- Contributor \$50
- Sustainer \$100
- Sponsor \$250
- Patron \$500

Please check one of the choices:

- I am a new member.
- I am renewing my membership.

Please send payment to:

Bartram Trail Conference  
c/o Anna Humphries  
168 N Crest Road,  
Chattanooga, TN 37404

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Areas of Interest in the Bartram Trail: (try to be specific about geographic locations and activities, i.e., specific Bartram sites, and whether or not you like to hike, read, garden, etc.)

Your dues support our newsletter, web site, Fothergill Fellowship Awards and other Bartram

Trail Conference projects.

You may also join online at:

<https://bartramtrailconference.wildapricot.org/page-1655351>  
All you need is a PayPal account!