



Torrey-West Estate Rehab Project Begins **State Department of Natural Resources project to be finished in 2026**

In 1926, contractors finished Henry and Nelle Ford Torrey's "Little Cabin in the Woods" on Ossabaw Island's North End and the Michigan family spent their first winter in the 20,000-square foot Spanish revival home. This past May, Georgia Governor Brian Kemp signed the 2024-2025 state budget that included \$7.1 million to rehab that 98-year-old building and two accessory structures. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) project will take two years—completing just as the Torrey-West House turns 100 years old in 2026. DNR's Engineering and Construction Services section is leading the project.

DNR's design team of project architects and engineers spent the summer of 2024 planning and developing a scope of work for the rehabilitation of the three buildings. Meanwhile, the Ossabaw Island Foundation (TOIF) used the summer to sort, pack up and store interior items for safekeeping during the project, including removing light fixtures to prepare them for refurbishment, and finding a temporary home for LuluBelle, the mannequin who lives in the foyer of the house. One hundred years ago similar planning and discussions probably occurred between the

original Torrey-West House architects, Henrik Wallin and Arthur F. Comer, and builder Farquar McCrae as construction began on the house and garage.

For the next two years, TOIF staff Elizabeth DuBose and Mark Frissell are serving in an advisory capacity on the project to the DNR and their contractors, due to their familiarity with the buildings' history, design, mechanics, and use, as well as TOIF's future role as stewards of the buildings.

In September 2024, the first phase of physical work began on the house. Undaunted by a one-week delay courtesy of Tropical Storm Helene, an eight-person team will spend approximately three months prepping the buildings for upcoming renovations.

While the building preparation is underway, DNR's Design Services team is developing rehab design plans for the Torrey-West House exterior and interior, including plumbing/mechanical, electrical and fire protection systems. The rehabilitation crew is slated to begin their work in early 2025.

Executive Director's Letter



Photo by Robin Gunn

This past summer, as TOIF began working on storing the Torrey West House contents, a major question was “what shall we do with the Project Books?” Past visitors to the Torrey West House may remember the long shelves crammed with books and papers that lined the walls of the hallway between the foyer and the patio door on

the first floor. These “Project Books,” as they were called by Eleanor “Sandy” Torrey West, include works given to her by alumni of both the Ossabaw Island Project (OIP) (1961-1982) and Genesis (1970-1982). Mrs. West founded these creative retreat programs with her husband Clifford and led them on Ossabaw. Most of the books are the end-product of creative projects completed by the project members—novels, essay collections, poetry chapbooks, naturalist guidebooks, and a few masters’ and doctoral theses. The collection includes works completed while on the island or referencing the author’s Ossabaw experiences. Also in the collection are magazine articles, literary reviews, musical recordings and sheet music.

In June, TOIF staff and volunteers moved the project books to the TOIF office on the mainland, in preparation for the Torrey West House rehab. Selden Frissell spent the summer in the office wearing a dust mask as she dusted and cataloged the collection—a total of 1159 entries. Every day was a new discovery in the diversity of the different project members and what they produced on Ossabaw or after they left the island. Poetry, children’s books, novels, musical scores, philosophy books, religion books, and textbooks for art history, biology and math.

Many items include personal inscriptions dedicated to Mrs. West. The inscriptions are funny, touching and poignant. Selden’s favorite inscription reads “Mystical, prehistoric, self-renewing, Ossabaw re-animates all those who touch it, blossoms a listen to the long nigh silence- this is inscribed in the hope that all that is here now will never change- With much affection and loving remembrance- from one who loved each hour- and for the Wests’ and the Woods’ who made it possible”- Max Wylie, March 1975.



Selden working in the office.
Photo by Elizabeth DuBose

Mrs. West always stressed that the Ossabaw programs were interdisciplinary. After spending the summer with this collection of works, I have a more enriched understanding of how carefully the project selection committee and staff worked to ensure that a variety of project participants attended each session.

TOIF hopes that the final home for the collection of the Project Books will be with the Georgia Historical Society (GHS) in Savannah, Georgia. They would be an expansion of the Ossabaw Collection, which was donated by the Torrey-West families and includes both projects’ participant applications. It seems fitting that the works ultimately produced by the OIP and Genesis members should join the Ossabaw Collection, creating a more complete story of the programs for future researchers to understand.

Elizabeth DuBose
Executive Director
Ossabaw Island Foundation

On a somber note, this newsletter went to press just after the October 19 tragedy on Sapelo Island, when a ferry gangway collapse sent over 20 people into the water in Doboy Sound. Seven people lost their lives and many others were injured. All had attended Sapelo Island Cultural Day, an annual celebration of Gullah Geechee culture held in Sapelo’s Hog Hummock community. The hearts of TOIF’s Board of Trustees and staff are heavy with grief and sadness. We stand in solidarity with our Sapelo and McIntosh County neighbors as they navigate the months ahead. Sapelo’s people have faced strong headwinds as they fight to protect their land and heritage. We have faith that this Gullah Geechee community will remain steadfast despite this terrible loss.



Image by Ellen Lanyon Ossabaw Storm Warning

Ossabaw Night in Savannah

Armstrong Center, 13040 Abercorn St.
Savannah, GA 31419

January 14th

5 p.m. Reception | 6 p.m. Program
Free & Open to the Public!

“The Ossabaw Island Project, Genesis, and Off the Coast of Paradise” Erin Dunn, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at Telfair Museums, and Beryl Gilothwest, Guest Curator and grandson of Eleanor “Sandy” Torrey West.

Dunn and Gilothwest are co-curators of *Off the Coast of Paradise: Ossabaw Island, Georgia, 1961–Now*, opening in early 2026 at Telfair Museums’ Jepson Center.

In 1961, Ossabaw Island’s co-owner Eleanor “Sandy” Torrey West and her husband Clifford Bateman West established the Ossabaw Island Project (OIP), a multidisciplinary residency program that ran until 1982. Unlike similar programs such as Yaddo in Saratoga Springs, New York, and MacDowell in Peterborough, New Hampshire, that were tailored towards artists only, the Wests invited intellectuals in the sciences, linguistics, history, mathematics, law, and other disciplines to Ossabaw in addition to painters, photographers, sculptors, writers, musicians, and other artists. Residents were given the opportunity to work on projects of their choosing and gain inspiration from the wild

and majestic environment of the island. In 1970, the Wests expanded their program to include Genesis, a cooperative, semi-sustainable community oriented towards younger and less established creative residents.

These programs form the bedrock of the upcoming exhibition *Off the Coast of Paradise: Ossabaw Island, Georgia, 1961–Now* at Telfair Museums’ Jepson Center in Savannah, which will explore the island’s profound impact on arts and culture in the United States over the last sixty years. The exhibit will open early 2026.

At Ossabaw Night, Dunn and Gilothwest will introduce their research into the West’s programs and spotlight several artists who have had artistically transformative experiences on the island.



Photo by Fran Lapolla

Visit Ossabaw Island in 2025!

How to Register: The following trips are organized by TOIF through our Public Use and Education Program. They are open to the public. Fees vary. To register for all TOIF Public Use and Education Program events, visit ossabawisland.org OR call 912-344-2900 OR scan the QR codes below. Pre-registration required.

Get Creative on Ossabaw: Winter Day Trip

Sat. February 1

Paint, sketch, write, or take photos on Ossabaw Island. Let the island be your muse. After a brief history presentation, you'll have several hours to wander the North End on your own and pursue your own creative endeavor.



Super Museum Sunday on Ossabaw Island

Sun. February 9

Visit Ossabaw Island as part of Georgia History Festival's statewide Super Museum Sunday event. This afternoon walking tour of Ossabaw's history is free-of-charge for island admission, with only a \$55 boat fee.



Creative four day, three night retreat

Fri. February 14 – Mon. February 17

Spend three nights on Ossabaw Island. This is a "no agenda" time for creativity, writing, drawing, painting, or image-making on Ossabaw Island.



Day Trip Tour of Ossabaw Island's North End

Sat. March 29

A day trip to the island's North End for an interpretive tour that includes ecology and history, plus time on your own for exploring or relaxing.



Photo by Ben Wells

Ossabaw Island Descendants Heritage Day

Sat. May 10

Did your parents, grandparents or other ancestors live, work or own land on Ossabaw Island from 1760 - 1980? Were you an Ossabaw Island Project member or a Genesis member? This springtime gathering brings Ossabaw's people together for a day of food, friendship, history, and remembrance.



Get Creative on Ossabaw: Day Trip

Sat. May 31

Paint, sketch, write, or take photos on Ossabaw Island. Let the island be your muse. After a brief history presentation, you'll have several hours to wander the North End on your own and make art.



Lift Every Voice: Ossabaw Island and Pin Point Fee-Free Day Trip

Sat. August 9

This morning walking tour of the North End Plantation site provides an overview of Ossabaw's African-American and Gullah-Geechee culture and history; followed by an afternoon visit to the Pin Point Heritage Museum in the Gullah-Geechee community established by formerly enslaved people from Ossabaw Island.



Turtle Hatching Day Trips

Sponsored by the Ecology Wildlife Foundation Fund

Sat. August 23 or Sun. August 24

Accompany Georgia DNR Sea Turtle Conservation Program interns as they inventory loggerhead turtle nests for eggs and live hatchlings on Ossabaw Island's South Beach. In 2024 there were 7,476 sea turtle hatchlings on Ossabaw.



A Hands-On Indigo Dyeing Experience: Ossabaw Island Indigo Day Trips

Sat. September 20 or Sun. September 21

Elizabeth DuBose and Mark Frissell share the history of Ossabaw indigo, provide instruction on creating fresh-leaf indigo dye vats, and guide participants through the dyeing process.



Photo by Ben Wells



Photo by Fran Lapolla



3,156

visits to Ossabaw Island
hosted by TOIF
(a 35% increase over 2023)



30%

creativity and
art-related trips



30%

K-12 education trips



40%

science-based trips



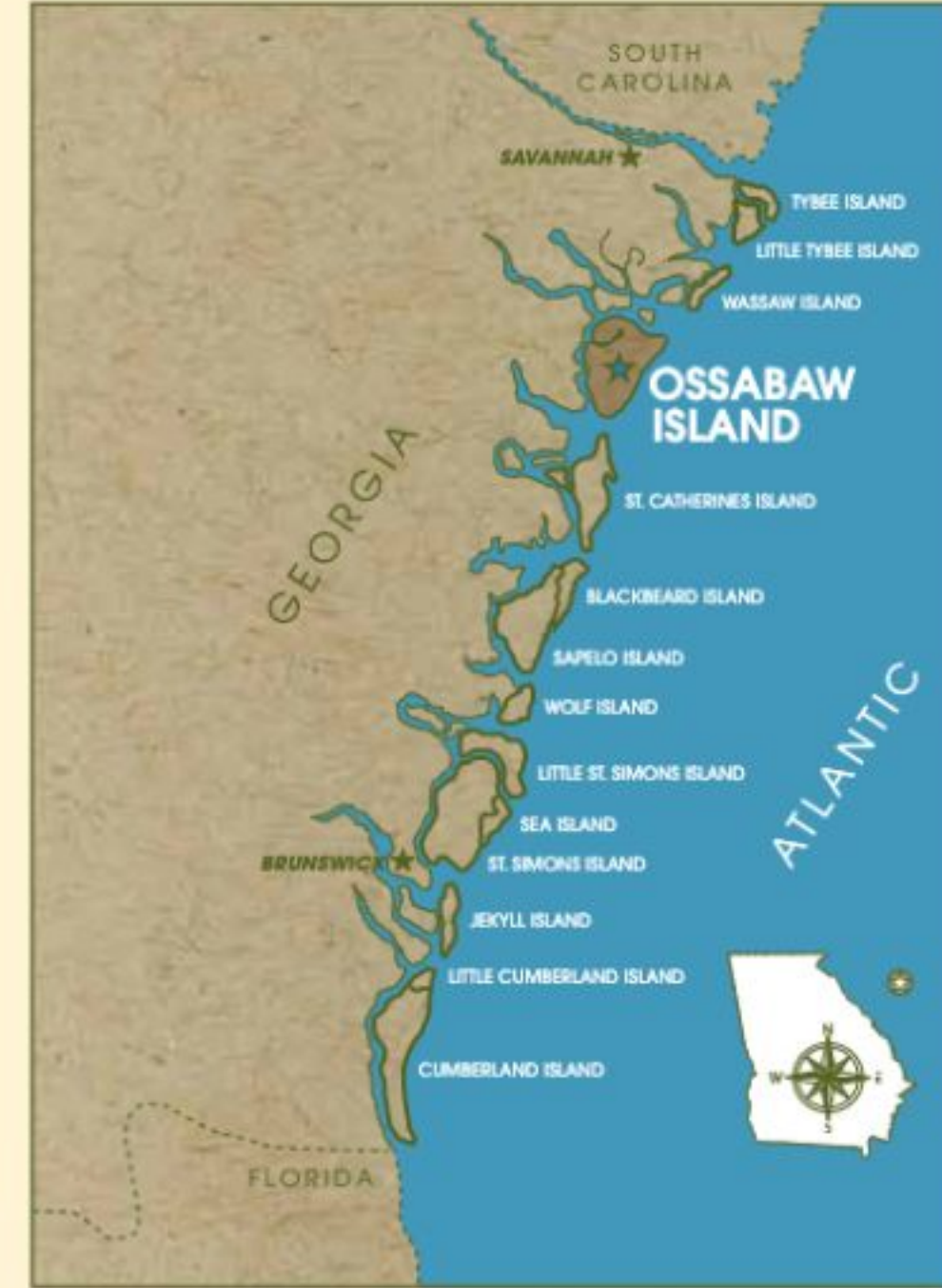
allocated in the 2025/26
Department of Natural Resources
budget for their rehabilitation of
three Torrey-West buildings



147

program days on
Ossabaw Island

Ossabaw Island Foundation & Education Alliance Partners



Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Engineering and Construction Services
Sea Turtle Conservation Program
State Parks and Historic Sites Division
Wildlife Resources Division

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Georgia Conservancy
Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
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The Landings Association
Leadership Bryan County
The Learning Center at SCI
Location Gallery
Moon River District
Oglethorpe Charter School
Ossabaw Island Writers' Retreat
Pennsylvania State University
Photopoint Gallery
Pin Point Heritage Museum
University of Utah
Outdoor Adventure

2023/2024 Financial Report (July 31-August 1)

REVENUE • \$456,809

- On Island Revenue: 41%
- Fundraising Events: 23%
- Donations: 27%
- Grants: 9%

EXPENSES • \$436,968

- On Island Expenses: 73%
 - cleaning, maintenance & repairs of buildings & equipment
 - transportation to/from Ossabaw
 - on-island staffing
- General & Administration 27%
 - staffing
 - printing & postage
 - Ossabaw Night in Savannah expenses
 - fundraising expenses
 - audit fees

DONATE TODAY!



Ossabaw Fund Contributors

Thank you to the following donors to the Ossabaw Fund who contributed in May - October 2024. Your generous donations comprise 27% of our operating budget; this allows the Foundation the opportunity to share Ossabaw Island with the world. Thank you!

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|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
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| Robin Gunn | Gwen Morris | |
| George Haberman | Beth Moulder | |

**DONATE
TODAY:**



RECORD

GENESIS OFFICIALLY BEGAN IN
ATLANTA ON SUNDAY JUNE 16, 1970
JUNE 16, 1970. SIGNATURES
OF THE ORIGINAL GENESIS
GROUP ARE AS FOLLOWS

Alana Frank
Martha Miller
Peter Schilhorn
Rita B. Rans
Robert Van Etten
Ann Van Etten
Harriet Bass
N. Jerry Ellis
Stephen R. Ever
Dick T. Allen
Larry McElroy
John T. Edwards
Ringer Davis
Christina Lammiman
Jill Schleinger
Larry Earl
Michael H. McCarty
Janice Webb
Carol Jane Richey
Gail F. Rice

What's in your closet? Genesis book?

In every *Ossabaw Oracle* we ask that if you attended the Ossabaw Island Project or Genesis to please consider donating your Ossabaw memorabilia, such as journals, letters, photos or sketchbooks, to TOIF. We will accumulate it to be housed in the Ossabaw Collection at the Georgia Historical Society.

Through the years we have received a variety of treasures. The handmade tiles from the Genesis cookshack at Middle Place made their way back to us, in addition to several personal mementos. This year, Christine Laporte was cleaning out an office closet and sent to us her Ossabaw box. Christine was a Genesis member, a house-sitter for Mrs. West in the 1980s, taught a Maymester course (*The Art and Science of Ossabaw Island*) at University of Georgia, and hosted groups for TOIF prior to 2005. One of the most exciting discoveries in her Ossabaw box was the Genesis guestbook, a registry of the members and researchers at Genesis beginning with the class of 1970. This will be an important addition to the Ossabaw Collection.

*In the Beginning, Reflections on Year One,
Genesis Project on Ossabaw Island.*



If you or a family member participated in the Ossabaw Island Project or the Genesis Project please consider donating your journals, letters, photos, sketchbooks or other materials from the era to the Ossabaw Collection at the Georgia Historical Society. For information on how to contribute your Ossabaw items, contact Elizabeth DuBose, elizabeth@ossabawisland.org to begin the donation process.



Photo by Fran Lapolla

Sponsor Our Public Use and Education Programs

Give hundreds of people each year the unique opportunity to spend a day on an unspoiled barrier island or experience some of Ossabaw on the mainland.

Perhaps you've heard the big news that the Torrey West Estate, the location of the annual Pig Roast, is being rehabbed by the State of Georgia. Construction has begun and is expected to take several years. During construction, the entire Torrey West Estate property is closed. TOIF is putting the Ossabaw Island Pig Roast on hiatus for the foreseeable future.

TOIF's Public Use and Education Programs offer the public unique opportunities to discover and learn about Ossabaw's barrier island ecology and human history. Through our tours, hands-on instruction, personal encounters, and events held on the mainland, our participants experience the voices, mystery, and beauty of Ossabaw in ways that are not possible elsewhere.

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Robin Wright Gunn

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For more information, download the brochure
or email robin@ossabawisland.org



Archaeology of the Enslaved and Freed Gullah-Geechee Communities at Middle Place by Dr. Jake Holland-Lulewicz

This past summer, archaeologists from both Penn State and the University of Georgia conducted archaeological research at Middle Place on Ossabaw Island. Led by Drs. Isabelle Holland-Lulewicz (Penn State), Amanda Roberts Thompson (UGA), and Jake Holland-Lulewicz (Penn State), and assisted by a crew of a dozen PhD and undergraduate students, the team set out to investigate both the enslaved community and the Freedmen's community located at the former Middle Place Plantation. The goal of this work is part of ongoing research that aims to illuminate Gullah-Geechee histories and experiences on the Georgia coast and to explore the effects of emancipation on the daily lives and livelihoods of Gullah-Geechee people and communities up and down the coast. Ossabaw Island is exceptionally important in this regard, as its preservation and lack of development means that the archaeological record of these histories remains undisturbed, and can teach us a lot.

During the Civil War, many Black enslaved people throughout the south were enlisted in the Union Army. In 1865, after the Confederacy's defeat, Sherman declared Special Field Order No. 15, which allowed free Black families to be granted lands along the coast that were abandoned by their White owners. Emancipated Black families were granted lots between 10-40 acres, many located on the plantations and land on which these families had previously been enslaved. Just one year later, all former plantation lands were returned to their White owners, Black families were forced into tenant farming, and no Black individual ever owned land again on Ossabaw Island. In 1865, there were 78 free Black individuals living on the island in 32 homes.

One of these free Black communities, made of seven families, was located at the former plantation of Middle Place, just a football field's distance north of the previously occupied enslaved community of standing tabby structures. In the 1890s, a series of hurricanes eventually forced the movement of many families from Ossabaw Island, with the remaining Black families joining their relatives in Pin Point, near present day Savannah, Georgia.

Because there was both an enslaved community and free community at Middle Place, we are able to closely compare via archaeology how these communities, households, and lives differed from one another and in what ways they were

similar. This summer we excavated over 100 small tests all across the enslaved community site to better understand how this community used space and organized their daily activities. We also excavated small tests into trash pits associated with two of the five known households associated with the free community. Our excavations revealed incredible amounts of artifacts including fragments of dishes, pots and pans, building materials, animal bones eaten and discarded, and personal effects like buttons and pipes. All of this is now currently being processed at Penn State by undergraduate and graduate student researchers who will be conducting original research on these materials.

We were also lucky to host two public days in collaboration with the Ossabaw Island Foundation.



Photo by Dr. Isabelle Holland-Lulewicz

Stay tuned for opportunities next summer to visit us as we continue this archaeological work at Middle Place.

Ossabaw Summer of Art Recap:

Thank you to our contributing artists and gallery partners

The summer of 2024 was hot on Ossabaw Island and a hot one for Ossabaw artwork! Two galleries in Savannah held separate art exhibitions benefiting TOIF. The paintings, mixed media works and fine crafts on exhibition and for sale around Savannah reflected the diversity of artists who have been inspired by Ossabaw, and the diversity of subjects on our unspoiled island.

At Location Gallery in downtown Savannah, Ossabaw Outtakes by artists Joy Dunigan and Peter E. Roberts included 48 new works. Dunigan’s photographs with mixed media featured both ‘greatest hits’ and the ‘deep cuts’ of Ossabaw Island landscapes and the built environment, including icons of an ecosystem presented in earth tones and astrobrights. Roberts’s paper cut assemblages reimagine the icons of Ossabaw’s ecosystem, lending his brand of pop retro magic to the island’s wildlife—alligators, horseshoe crabs, turtles and more.

Location Gallery donated all of the gallery profits from this show to the Ossabaw Island Foundation. Ossabaw Outtakes now hangs at Photopoint Gallery, 30 Cherokee St (inside Elmgren’s Garden Center) in Richmond Hill, Georgia from October-February 2025.

The “anchor” exhibition for Ossabaw’s Summer of Art was the month-long gallery exhibition for TOIF’s online art auction. For the third year, TOIF partnered with Georgia Southern University’s Gallery in Fine Arts Hall on the Armstrong Campus for a July exhibition of 51 works of donated artwork available for bidding. Thank you to Gallery Director Dr. Jason Hoelscher for his enthusiasm for Ossabaw Island-inspired art, and for his gifted eye for hanging the art exhibition.

We are grateful to all the Ossabaw art lovers who purchased art in support of Ossabaw Island and TOIF this summer, either at the Location Gallery show or through the online auction.

Save the date – July 2025 – for the Ossabaw Island Art Auction Exhibition at the Fine Arts Gallery, Armstrong Campus of Georgia Southern! The deadline for donated artwork will be Friday, June 20, 2025.

Thank you to the following visual artists who created and donated Ossabaw Island-inspired art for the 2024 auction:

- Angie Abbott

Carmela Aliffi

Joanna Angell

Carol Austin

Meredith Baker

Pam Bullock

Betsy Cain

Susie Clinard

Laurie Cordaro

Ekron ‘Ches’ Crow

Janet Csadenyi

Lynne Daley

Harry Delorme

France Dorman

Joy Dunigan

Morey Gers

Gay Gillies

Rachel Green

Regina Holderness

Henry Hoover

Michael Jenkins
- Katy Haughney

Kurt Knoerl

Lucy Bisbing-Korn

Fran Lapolla

Shirley Lindefeld

Beth Logan

Nancy Marshall

Ruth McCully

Kelley R. Milburn

Cora Ennis Morris

Kenny Nobles

Tessa Parker

Peter E. Roberts

Rebecca Sipper

Sheryl St. Germain

Barbara Vaughn

Marilyn Vrooman

Karey Walter

Ben Wells

Stacey Wells

Ellen Embree Wyatt



“Adopt” an Ossabaw Island Donkey for \$25 or \$55

Tuesday, December 3rd, support the Ossabaw Island Foundation as part of **GAgives** and **#GivingTuesday**.

A donkey adoption makes a great gift.

Adopt as many donkeys as you like at **GAGives.org/story/Donkey**

For your \$25 adoption, you or your gift recipient will receive an adoption certificate, and donkey sticker. **A \$55 adoption adds a plush braying donkey or a pair of donkey socks.**

Thank you for supporting the Ossabaw Island Foundation on

GIVINGTUESDAY

Meet your Ossabaw Island Hosts and Boat Captains



Photo by Elizabeth DuBose

John "Crawfish" Crawford has shared the wonders of Ossabaw with groups since the 1980s when he worked for Eleanor "Sandy" Torrey West's Ossabaw Island public use and education program. Crawfish has hosted many TOIF overnight programs and day trips over the years, with a focus on coastal ecology and turtle ecology. With Fran Lapolla, he co-hosts TOIF's turtle hatching day trips. In 2020, Crawfish retired from UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant as a marine educator, where he spent 30 years sharing his knowledge with K-12 students, teachers, education fellows, coastal residents and conservation professionals. He is a licensed boat captain.*



Photo by Elizabeth DuBose

Mark Frissell has volunteered and worked as an independent historic preservation contractor for TOIF since 2002. He began hosting overnight groups in 2011 and joined the permanent TOIF staff in 2021 as Island Facilities Manager. Mark was the lead on the preservation of the 19th century tabby buildings and the 1918 Boarding House. He keeps the Ossabaw vehicle fleet running and all TOIF-managed buildings in working order.



Photo by Stacey Wells

Robin Gunn joined the TOIF staff in 2013 as Project Coordinator after ten years as a TOIF volunteer and independent contractor. She hosts most of the walking tour/day trips to Ossabaw Island, including leading historic interpretive tours, and checks in groups on the mainland dock before they depart for Ossabaw Island. When not on Ossabaw she coordinates TOIF special events, media relations and fundraising efforts; and handles registration and logistics for all trips to Ossabaw Island.



Photo by Kendrick Brinson

Fran Lapolla is a USCG licensed master captain and contracted island host for TOIF. He transports guests to the island, leads day trips, and hosts most of our overnight trips. He operates small boats for the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography. Fran spent 35 years as a science teacher and seven years as a marine educator/boat captain at UGA's Marine Education Center on Skidaway Island. Fran began hosting on Ossabaw Island in 2011. He has been known to share his homemade Lapolla pizza with groups that he hosts.*



Photo by Mike Neal

Mike Neal is a licensed boat captain and owner of Bull River Cruises. TOIF hires Mike and his pontoon boat The Island Explorer to transport our day trip guests to Ossabaw Island. He provides ecology, geology, and marine life information on day trips, as well as coastal and Ossabaw Island history. He is a Marine Coordinator and Water Safety Specialist for the film industry, and owns and operates a kayak tour company. Mike has been an indispensable partner of TOIF since 2002. Mike is a super fan of the Ossabaw donkeys!*



Photo by Rock Reed

Rock Reed is a licensed charter boat captain. He has provided transportation to Ossabaw for small day trips and for overnight groups since 2019. He grew up in the rivers and creeks around Ossabaw Island and has fond memories of visiting with Eleanor "Sandy" Torrey West at her 100th birthday party on the island in 2013. He provides barrier island tours for local real estate companies. He can often be found fishing in Ossabaw Island's Bradley Creek, and other secret fishing spots near the island.



Photo by Ben Wells

Ben Wells is a licensed boat captain and a contracted island host for TOIF. He provides transportation to Ossabaw, leads day trips, and hosts overnight stays. He is also a marine science teacher at Oglethorpe Charter School. Ben was first introduced to Ossabaw in 2007 as part of the PRISM teacher training program, and brought his first student to Ossabaw Island in 2008 through the OssaBest initiative. Each year Ben brings his 7th and 8th grade marine science students to Ossabaw for day trips or overnights as part of their curricula.*

**John Crawford, Fran Lapolla, Mike Neal, and Ben Wells are CARE (Coastal Awareness and Responsible Eco-tourism) certified through the University of Georgia's Marine Extension Program.*

Create an Enduring Legacy

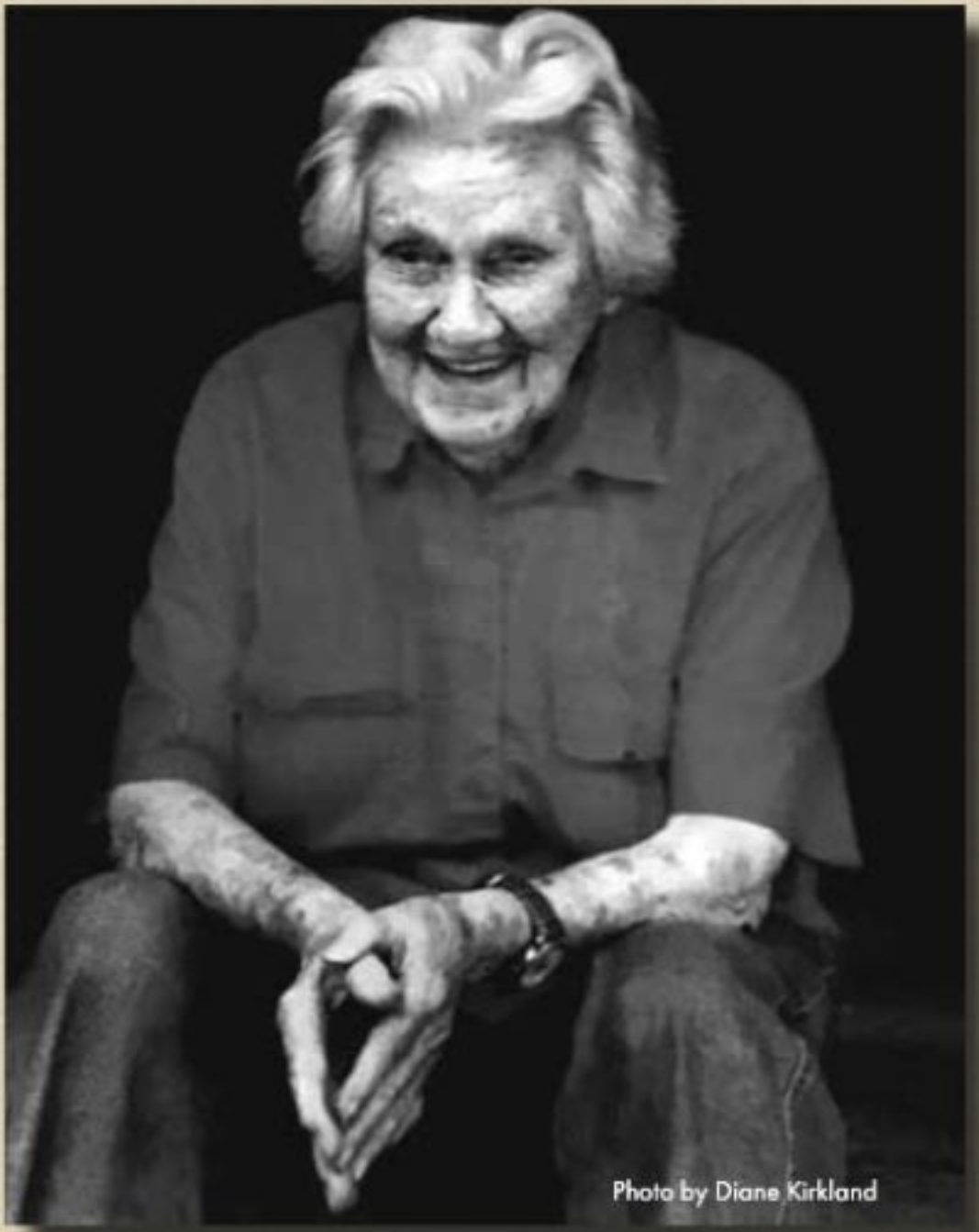


Photo by Diane Kirkland

Join "Sandy West's Ossabaw Champions"

Sandy West's Ossabaw Champions recognize individuals who have chosen to support our work by including The Ossabaw Island Foundation (TOIF) in their estate plans. Planned gifts, including bequests, help facilitate ecology, archaeology, historic preservation, and cultural study today and well into the future.

Joining the Ossabaw Champions is easy – include TOIF as a beneficiary in your will, retirement plan, life insurance, trusts, or other estate planning vehicles.

Ossabaw Champion members receive special recognition, as well as invitations to donor events and programs.

Eleanor "Sandy" Torrey West dedicated herself to preserving Ossabaw Island for future generations. She was inspired by Archimedes, a famous mathematician and inventor in ancient Greece. "I want this island to be a refuge outside the 'real' world, where creative people can stand and find 'a lever to move the earth,'" she said, quoting Archimedes. "All I wanted to do is give people a place that had no demands on them and where they would be with other interesting people in different fields..... I cared about what the island did to them."

Be a part of the future of Ossabaw Island and join Sandy West's Ossabaw Champions by making a bequest to the Ossabaw Island Foundation.

For more information,
scan the QR Code



The Ossabaw Island Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization | Federal Tax Identification number 58-1397054.
Please note: this is not legal advice. Any prospective donor should seek the advice of a qualified estate and/or tax professional to determine the financial consequences of their gift.



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ABOUT OSSABAW ISLAND:

Ossabaw Island is a 26,000-acre undeveloped barrier island on the Atlantic Ocean, owned by the State of Georgia and located in Chatham County. Georgia's first Heritage Preserve, accessible only by boat, is undeveloped and set aside by an Executive Order for natural, scientific and cultural study, research and education; and for environmentally sound preservation, conservation and management of the island's ecosystem.

The Ossabaw Island Foundation (TOIF) is a non-profit 501 (c) 3. Through a partnership with the State of Georgia, TOIF inspires, promotes, and manages exceptional educational, cultural, and scientific programs that are designed to maximize the experience of Ossabaw Island, while minimizing the impact on the island's resources.

Contact us:

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Mark Frissell

Island Facilities Manager,
Ossabaw Island Foundation
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