



Ossabaw Oracle

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Dr. Paul Pressly Named Program Coordinator of the Ossabaw Island Educational Alliance

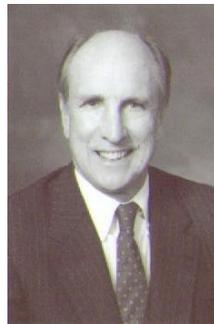
In early 2004, the Ossabaw Island Education Alliance was created with a vision to make the island a nationally recognized education center focusing on many disciplines. The Ossabaw Island Education Alliance includes the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Ossabaw Island Foundation (TOIF), the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) and a committed group of public and private university educators, scientists, citizens, community leaders and individuals. The Alliance recently hired Dr. Paul Pressly, of Savannah to serve as the Program Coordinator for this ambitious initiative.

Dr. Paul M. Pressly grew up in Atlanta and served for twenty-one years as Headmaster of The Savannah Country Day School. He holds a B.A. in History from Princeton University, a Masters in Pub-

lic Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in History from Oxford University. He was elected a Rhodes Scholar in 1964. Dr. Pressly has served as chair of the SAT Committee for College Board, chair of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Schools, and is currently President of the Cum Laude Society, a national organization recognizing scholarship in public and private schools. For the past two years, he has been a Director of The Ossabaw Island Foundation and chaired the Education Committee.

He is currently a member of the University of Georgia Press Advisory Council and on the board of the Georgia

Historical Society, the Telfair Museum, the Davenport House and the Rabun-Gap Nacoochee School. Pressly is an avid saltwater boater, a local historian, and an active participant in efforts to conserve the natural and cultural resources of the Georgia coast.



Dr. Paul Pressly

“The Ossabaw Island Foundation is immensely grateful that a person with Paul Pressly’s academic credentials and record of leadership in education has accepted the challenge of developing a world-class program to promote the highest use of Ossabaw for educational, scientific, historical and cultural learning. This is consistent with the purposes for which the Torrey-West families conveyed the island to the State and will further the purposes of

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Excavations Continue at Bead Maker’s Midden

Back in 1974, student Charlie Pearson conducted test excavations of the Bead Maker’s midden while pursuing a masters degree in archaeology at the University of Georgia. His survey produced a variety of cultural materials, including chipped stone drills and numerous pieces of worked

whelk shell. Some of the shell pieces had been partially ground and drilled and are, along with the stone drills, almost certainly debris associated with the production of shell beads and possibly other shell ornaments.

Over 30 years later, Dr. Pearson, now Senior Archae-

ologist for Coastal Environment, Inc. an environmental consulting firm out of Baton Rouge has returned to the island complete his work.

“Almost nothing is known about this prehistoric craft activity in coastal Georgia,” comments Dr. Pearson, “and the “Bead Maker’s” midden

provides a unique opportunity to collect information on shell bead production at the end of the prehistoric era 500 years ago.”

According to DNR Staff Archaeologist Ronnie Rogers, “This appears to be one of the few instances where a prehis-

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Save the Date

Pig Roast, Picnic & Art Sale
Saturday October 22, 2005.

From New York City, The Wiyos return to entertain us again this year.

Art Show to benefit Ossabaw Island Foundation

Artist Tim Coy will be featured in a one-man show at Gallery 440, 440 Bull Street in Savannah. Proceeds from the show will be generously donated to the Boarding House Challenge Fund. The show opens July 7, and will remain on display until September.

The Ossabaw Island Foundation’s Mission Statement

The Ossabaw Island Foundation encourages natural, scientific, and cultural study, research and education on Ossabaw Island and conserves and protects Ossabaw Island’s unique resources, in partnership with the State of Georgia for the benefit of present and future generations.

Furniture Fund Update

The Foundation now owns the Torrey-West furniture in the Great Room, Sun Room, Dining Room and Foyer, and the painted furniture in the bedrooms. We are now working on purchasing art, china, and garden and patio furniture from the 1920s.

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Foundation Notes

The Ossabaw Island Foundation Board functions only by virtue of the commitment and enthusiasm of its Board members. The Board's By-laws include term limits, and as a result Helen Downing and Gordon K. Matthews have rotated off the Board after six years of service.

"The TOIF Board will miss having Gordon and Helen on the Board, but we appreciate their dedicated service and plan to keep them involved in our on-going activities," said Patricia Barmeyer, Chair. "Gordon Matthews has been instrumental in improving on-island activities and as Treasurer, helped upgrade TOIF's financial systems. Helen has been a leader in historic preservation and cultural activities on the island, while also spearheading fund-raising efforts."

TOIF is very pleased to announce two new Board members, Callie Downing, a resident at Memorial Hospital and Martin Melaver, President of Melaver, Inc.

Boarding House Challenge Grant

The Raymond M. Cash Foundation has issued the Ossabaw Island Foundation a \$125,000 challenge grant for the rehabilitation of the



Boarding House rendering courtesy of Poticny Deering Felder PC

Boarding House. The Knight-Gaines Foundation has generously agreed to contribute \$50,000 towards the required match. The Board of Regents has also contributed \$5,000. The Ossabaw Island Foundation has until December 2005 to raise the remaining \$70,000. Please help us take advantage of this generous match. To contribute, contact Elizabeth DuBose 912-233-5104, or elizabeth@ossabawisland.org. Contributions to the Ossabaw Island Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit corporation, are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Art Show benefits Boarding House Challenge Grant

Artist Tim Coy will present a one-man show of photographic work at Gallery 440, 440 Bull Street in Savannah.

Mr. Coy's photographs, taken throughout the year, beautifully depict the change of seasons on Ossabaw Island.

The show opens on Thursday, July 7 and remains on display until September 2005. All proceeds will be generously donated for the Boarding House Challenge Fund.



Dr. Paul Pressly

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the State's dedication of Ossabaw Island as a Heritage Preserve," said Patricia Thrower Barmeyer, Chair of the Board of The Ossabaw Island Foundation.

As Program Coordinator, Dr. Pressly will be responsible for the design and management of the education and research programs on Ossabaw Island. He also will market and promote the programs and outreach efforts of the Education Alliance and seek funding for these initiatives through grants, donations, and other fund-raising efforts. One of his primary goals will be to work as part of a collaborative team to make the island available for use by for a variety of disciplines and stakeholders.

"The University System of Georgia is extremely pleased to partner with the Ossabaw Island Foundation and the Department of Natural Resources in the Ossabaw Education Alliance, and to have Dr. Paul Pressly come on board to coordinate the Alliance's educational efforts. Dr. Pressly's knowledge and experience will be invaluable in providing educational opportunities on Ossabaw for students of all ages and many interests throughout Georgia," said Dr. Dan Papp, Sr. Vice Chancellor, Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

"There has been great interest from many stakeholders in expanding educational and research opportunities on Ossabaw Island over the years," said DNR Commissioner Noel Holcomb. "In 2001,

our agency completed the development of a management plan for the island based on input from an external steering committee and the public which called for increased opportunities for education and research but funding these goals has been a challenge. I am very excited about the vision that the Alliance has for Ossabaw Island and look forward to working with our partners to gain recognition for this incredible resource."

Dr. Pressly's office will be located at the Coastal Georgia Center, 305 Fahm Street, Savannah, GA 31401. For more information on the Ossabaw Island Education Alliance or the future plans for education on Ossabaw Island, please contact Paul Pressly at (912) 651-2005 or ppressly@ossabawisland.org.

Shirts! Posters! Books! Notecards!

Order Now!

We now have newly designed t-shirts, using Craig Rubadoux's Ossabaw animals on the front and a map of the Georgia Coast on back. The shirts feature green printing on a natural colored shirt.

In addition to *Evocations of an Island* hardcover books, we also have boxed note cards featuring two different images from the book (10 cards total, with 5 cards each image).

We're also pleased to offer posters of William Armstrong's lovely painting of Bradley Beach.

Please send ___ copy(ies) of *Evocations* @ \$29.95 _____

Please send ___ box(es) of *Evocations* Notecards @ \$12 _____

Please send ___ copy(ies) of Bradley Beach poster @ \$20 _____

Please send ___ T-shirt, size S M L XL @ \$15 _____

Enclose \$4 for US postage and handling. \$ 4.00

Total Order: _____

- My check/money order is enclosed
- Please charge to
- o MasterCard o VISA
 - o Discover o American Express

Acct #: _____ Exp: _____

Signature: _____

Daytime Phone (required) (_____) _____ - _____

Send order to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Send completed form to:

The Ossabaw Island Foundation

145 Bull Street
Savannah, GA 31401



Jim Bitler, On-Island Coordinator, Eleanor "Sandy" West

Congratulations

Congratulations to Eleanor Torrey West for receiving the 2005 Governor's Award in the Humanities, presented by Governor Sonny Perdue at a luncheon on May 12 in Atlanta, Georgia. The award recognizes exemplary achievements that have fostered an understanding of our cultural traditions and values in Georgia and have thus strengthened community, character and citizenship in the State of Georgia.

Excavation, *continued from Page 1*

toric bead-maker's workshop has been found on the Georgia coast. Dr. Pearson's excavations are providing us with a unique window into a little-known part of our collective past."

The excavations at the Bead Maker's Midden are co-sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources and The Ossabaw Island Foundation.



Friends of Ossabaw, *March-May 2005*

Friends:

Alex & Michele Raskin

Joanne Sharpe

Lucky:

Jane Feiler

Dr. & Mrs. O. William McFarland

Mr. & Mrs. Frederick L. Muller

Woodstork:

Carol & Bill Fox

In addition:

A gift in memory of Mary R. Hamada from Helen Hamada.

A gift in loving memory of our son CWO 3 Allen Dean Clark who lost his life on beautiful Ossabaw Island April 16, 1997, from Anne and Thomas Schwingle.

A gift in honor of Patricia Barmeyer as Chair of TOIF and in honor of Paul Pressly, Elizabeth DuBose and Jim Bitler, Ossabaw Island Foundation's staff, from Zelda Tenenbaum.

For the gracious way Jim Bitler interprets the island, for the work the Foundation does, for the presence of Mrs. West, a generous gift from Jane Fishman in appreciation.

A gift in honor of Al Bradford from Margaret & Dan Burns.

A gift from the estate of Lorraine C. McCarty, in memory of Lorraine McCarty from the entire McCarty family.

**The Ossabaw Island Foundation
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www.ossabawisland.org

Contributions to the Ossabaw Island Foundation, a
501-c-3 not-for-profit corporation, are deductible
to the extent allowed by law.



Alma Oswald, holding horse, in front of Clubhouse

The Oswald family lived on Ossabaw during the late 1920's through the 1930's. Mr. Oswald served as superintendent during that time. These pictures were shared by the Oswald family.



Gatehouse, Oswald and Keaner family members, 1933
Beachhouse on Willows Road (since eroded)

The Ossabaw Island Foundation
145 Bull Street
Savannah, GA 31401

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