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Jekyll Island Foundation Welcomes Three New Members to the Board of Directors

Jekyll Island, Ga. (March 22, 2006) – The Jekyll Island Foundation recently announced it has appointed Dee Matthews, Joseph Fowler, and Christopher Cay as the newest members of the Foundation Board of Directors. The Board serves to direct the Foundation's efforts in support of the Jekyll Island Authority's mission of responsible stewardship of the Island's natural and cultural resources.

"I am excited to welcome Dee Matthews, Joe Fowler, and Christopher Cay as our newest members," stated Bailey Izard, Chairman of the Jekyll Island Foundation, and Vice President with Bernstein Investment Research and Management in Atlanta. "They all offer extensive community experience and backgrounds that contribute to long-term objectives of the Board."

A key initiative for the Jekyll Island Foundation is the development of the new Georgia Sea Turtle Center, which is the first of its kind in the state of Georgia. Currently in construction on Jekyll Island, the Sea Turtle Center will offer medical treatment, rehabilitation and research facilities for the sea turtles that make their home along the Georgia and southeast coast. In addition, a comprehensive and interactive museum component will educate the public about these amazing and endangered creatures. The Georgia Sea Turtle Center broke ground in January, and the Center is scheduled to officially open to the public in spring of 2007.

Matthews currently serves as the public relations director for the Insurance Management Services in Albany. She serves on the board for many civic, business and educational organizations including the Boy's and Girl's Club of Albany, Darton College Foundation, the Friends of Phoebe Putney Hospital, Chairman of the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame, and the Georgia Student Education Fund with the University of Georgia. She also served as president of the Albany Sports Hall of Fame and as the fundraising chairman of the Albany Symphony.

Other projects and associations Matthews has been active in include Leadership Albany, the Albany-Dougherty Chamber of Commerce, the Jr. League, Charity League. In 2003, she received the Woman/Youth Award from the Boy's and Girl's Club of Albany. She received the Service to Mankind Award from the Sertoma Club of Albany and the Alumni of the Year Award from the University of Georgia.

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She and her husband, Jimmy, are members of Porterfield Methodist Church. Both are native Georgians, who are proud to call Georgia and Albany their home.

“Jekyll Island has been a part of our family for many years and I am honored to serve on the Foundation Board,” stated Matthews.

Joe Fowler, an Atlanta resident and retired professional from Lucent Technologies also has fond, childhood memories of Jekyll Island.

“Summer vacation trips to Jekyll Island were a treat to me when I was younger,” remarked Fowler. “It’s an honor to work with the Jekyll Island Foundation to help preserve the Island’s history and natural resources.”

Fowler has an extensive scientific and mathematic background, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from the University of Georgia, and a Master’s degree in Computer Sciences from New Mexico State University. Fowler also received recognition from Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, as well as induction into the Phi Mu Epsilon Honor Society for superior achievement in the field of mathematics.

Fowler has more than 29 years of experience in the telecommunications industry, and his background includes positions in engineering, information systems design, global logistics and strategic planning at Western Electric and AT&T. Fowler is also a member of the Friends of Historic Jekyll Island, Inc. and the Atlanta Symphony Associates. He actively participates in the Metropolitan Atlanta Alumni Association of Phi Beta Kappa, and is the current vice president of the Board of Directors for the Condominium Association, Inc. above the Four Seasons in Atlanta.

Christopher Cay graduated from the University of Georgia in 1997 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. After an internship in London with a Lloyd’s of London insurance broker, Cay returned to the United States to work with First Union. Since 2002, Cay has worked with Palmer & Cay, now Wachovia Insurance Services, in their private risk management practice.

“I’m honored to be asked to serve on the Jekyll Island Foundation Board of Directors, said Cay. “We enjoy visiting the Island as often as we can, and I am thrilled to support the Foundation’s initiatives.”

He holds an MBA from Georgia State University's Robinson College of Business where his focus was insurance and risk management. Cay currently serves on the boards of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, Memorial Health Foundation, and the Hodge Foundation. Cay enjoys golf, tennis, and running. He and his wife Emily reside in Savannah.

About the Jekyll Island Foundation

The Jekyll Island Foundation is a tax exempt, public, non-profit that offers participatory opportunities in planned giving, private donation, legislative education, corporate support, and philanthropic foundation support. The Foundation serves to raise, receive, manage and disburse funds for the stewardship of the historic and natural resources of Jekyll Island. This stewardship includes preservation and improvement of historic sites, conservation of the undeveloped portion of the island and development and improvement of amenities for visitors to the island. The Jekyll Island Foundation's current project is a major capital campaign to help fund the construction of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. The Foundation office is located in Villa Ospo at 381 Riverview Drive, Jekyll Island, Ga., 31527. For additional information on the Jekyll Island Foundation or to learn how you can help, visit www.jekyllislandfoundation.org or call (912) 635-4402.

About Jekyll Island

Jekyll Island is a barrier island on Georgia's coast – midway between Jacksonville, Fla.; and Savannah, Ga. Accessible by car just minutes from I-95, Jekyll Island offers a variety of amenities, including 10 miles of beach, four golf courses, a 250-acre Historic Landmark District, water park, tennis center, an array of lodging options including hotels, cottages and campgrounds. Owned by the State of Georgia, and managed by the Jekyll Island State Park Authority, Jekyll Island has had development limited to just 35 percent of its available land area. This unique aspect of Jekyll Island serves to preserve the critical barrier island ecosystem, as well as provides guests with a unique escape from the crowds and complications of other beach resort destinations. Please visit www.jekyllisland.com for more information or call 1-877-4JEKYLL.

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