

For Immediate Release
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Jekyll Island Observes Women's History Month By Celebrating *The Great Women of Jekyll Island*

Jekyll Island, Ga. (Feb. 22, 2006) - Celebrate the great woman in your life during March and Women's History Month by taking a tour with her entitled *Great Women of Jekyll Island*. This two-hour tour of Jekyll Island's Historic Landmark District emphasizes the wonderful female characters who made the Jekyll Island Club a grand success from 1886 until 1942. *Great Women of Jekyll Island* departs from the Jekyll Island History Center on Stable Road on Friday and Saturday, March 10-11, 2006, at 1 p.m.

The Jekyll Island Club was first created in 1886. In that year, "an association of wealthy gentlemen" purchased Jekyll Island, a small barrier island along the coast of Georgia, and proposed to build a clubhouse there.

Initially, men held all of the club memberships. The Jekyll Island Club advertised from the beginning, however, that, "ladies will constitute an attractive element and will be freely admitted to all the privileges to which their husbands, fathers, and brothers are entitled." This policy was unusual for social clubs of the day, which were largely segregated.

The *New York Times* predicted accurately that this policy would prove a draw for membership. Families flocked to the island from the north to fish, shoot, ride horseback, and swim together.

The women who came to the island under their husbands' memberships often possessed wealth, power, and prestige in their own right. Many of them were born to prominent families and possessed money of their own. Perhaps this fact lent them greater independence than many other women of the day. While the male club members were indisputably the masters of the business world, the women of the resort were social dynamos and wielded considerable influence of their own.

How did women like Savannah Struthers, Almira Rockefeller, Helen Hartley Jenkins, Charlotte Maurice, and Sarah Cantine Shrady Gould use their influence to shape the world of Jekyll Island to their liking? What legacy did these remarkable ladies leave for women of today to follow?

Discover the answers as you visit historic Moss Cottage and Indian Mound on this tour of the Jekyll Island Club National Historic Landmark District. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$7 for children 6-12, free for children under 6. Call (912) 635-4036 for more information or directions.

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 1-877-4JEKYL.

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Sarah Cantine Shrady Gould visited Jekyll Island with her family from 1899-1917. Photo courtesy of the Jekyll Island Museum.