

EDUCATION CREDIT UNION COUNCIL

2012 Annual Conference

SPOUSE/GUEST TOURS

Monday, February 20, 2012

Historic Savannah Experience

Your Exclusive Tour begins as we explore Savannah's rich history through visits to a Historic House Museum offering a look into the lives of some of the city's wealthy cotton merchants.

The Owens-Thomas House: Designed by William Jay this house is one of the finest examples of English Regency architecture in the U.S. The home was built from 1816 to 1819 for cotton merchant Richard Richardson and his wife Francis Bolton, but was soon lost in the financial depression of 1820. In 1830 the property was acquired by George Welchman Owens, congressman, lawyer, and one-time mayor of Savannah. It remained in the Owens family until 1951, when Margaret Thomas, Owens' granddaughter, bequeathed it to the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Lunch will be served at the famous Mrs. Wilkes Boarding House where you will enjoy a family style southern lunch in this little tucked away restaurant run by the same family since 1943.

The tour ends with an option to be dropped in two different shopping areas located within the Historic District for shopping and return on your own to hotel. A final stop will be made at the hotel for those wishing to return to the hotel by bus.

The Low Country Experience

This tour takes you past the Historic District through the Victoria District and on where you will experience the surrounding areas as locals do each day.

As the tour continues to Tybee Island our stop features the Tybee Historic Lighthouse. Ordered by General James Oglethorpe, Governor of the 13th colony, in 1732, the Tybee Island Light Station has been guiding mariners safe entrance into the Savannah River for over 270 years.

The Tybee Island Light Station is one of America's most, intact having all of its historic support buildings on its five-acre site. Rebuilt several times the current light station displays its 1916 day mark with 178 stairs and a First Order Fresnel lens (nine feet tall).

As the experience continues you will enjoy a driving tour of Tybee Island.

Lunch will be served at The Crab Shack. Once the location of an old fishing camp, still surrounded by docks and boat lifts, The Crab Shack on Tybee Island is a favorite for locals and tourist alike drawn to the

restaurant for the great seafood and laid back environment. You will enjoy the casualness of the restaurant seated under the live oak trees over looking the low country water ways.

As the tour journeys back into Savannah you will enjoy back roads with beautiful marsh views, a visit to an oak tree over 300 years old, have great picture opportunities in front of a mile long oak lined drive of a former plantation, see elegant homes on "The Bluff" overlooking the waterway, then end for refreshments and cookie sampling at Byrd Cookie Company, a Savannah favorite since 1924!