

June 11, 2011

Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee
Coastal Resources Division
One Conservation Way
Suite 300
Brunswick, GA 31520
Fax No.: (912) 262-3131

According to an article in yesterday's issue of the *Savannah Morning News*, your committee members will, on June 17, consider a proposal to save the Cockspar Island Lighthouse in the Savannah River.

I write in support of this initiative, and to urge its expedient approval.

As I'm sure you are aware, this structure is architecturally interesting and historically significant. The latter fact seems especially important these days, given that we are in our 150th year since the start of the American Civil War. This little lighthouse is sited only about ½ mile from the Fort Pulaski National Monument. The fact that it survived, without taking a hit, the huge April 10-11, 1862 artillery battle between the CSA forces in Fort Pulaski, and USA forces about two miles away, is something that numerous visitors – both local and from far away – have marveled at for many decades.

The funding required to effect this good repair (\$1.5M) seems modest compared with the benefits to the people and history of our country.

Thanks for reading!

Original signed by the writer

Charles E. Varner
663 William Hilton Parkway
Hilton Head Island 29928
Phone: (843) 785-9680
e-mail: cevarner@fastmail.fm