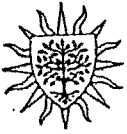




# ANDERSON RECORD



ANDERSON COUNTY CHAPTER • P.O. BOX 5743 • ANDERSON, S.C. 29623-5743

VOL. 1, ISSUE 4

December, 1988

## President's Comments:

So much has happened since our last newsletter! We had our first scheduled speaker since our formation in September, Mrs. Ann Sheriff, and guest, Miss. Faith Clayton. Ann spoke to us about the holdings in the "Faith Clayton Room" at Central Wesleyan College, accompanied with a slide show. Many of us were not familiar with this great place for research, but now feel we can use the resources placed at our disposal.

We had our 17th Annual Meeting of the SCGS, November 12, 1988, in Columbia. There was a total of 88 in attendance, all enjoyed the business meeting followed by a very delicious lunch.

The Anderson Chapter drew special attention because of being the newest Chapter (#16), and being less than a year old, having 70 members. We were very proud of the good work done by our Anderson members in making us a super club to belong to.

Another thing I would like to mention is, that our January 2nd meeting will be held January 9th, with Ge Lee C. Hendrix as our speaker. It will be a very special occasion for us. We had our first Organizational Meeting at the Anderson County Library, January 21, 1988, at 5:30PM, with 28 persons attending, including Dr. Jordan. So, we consider ourselves to be one year old in January 1989.

Beginning this year, we will be calling on members to take on responsibilities that up until now, Harvey Mullikin and I have been handling. This will include someone to take over the responsibility of getting speakers for our Club, helping with the Secretary/Treasurer's work, etc. We have enjoyed helping get our Club "off the ground", but now we must rely on our members for assistance to make our jobs easier. We would greatly appreciate volunteers to approach us, rather than having to be asked. Please lend us your support in this endeavor to make our Club an even greater one in the upcoming year.

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in helping our Club get off to a good start this past year; A special thanks to our Secretary/Treasurer, Harvey Mullikin; Newsletter Editor, G. Alan Johnson; Newsletter Publishers, John and Sarah Jean Morris; and the various chairpeople of Special Committees.

We are looking forward to a special year in 1989 with an increase in membership, completion of special projects, etc., and all this can and will be accomplished by us, the members. Thanks for your support!

### Editor's Comments:

We wish to thank everyone who has contributed their family material to be included in the newsletter. Mrs. Doris Cathey Simmons was very generous in loaning us some of her Cathey Material to xerox for our records, which we do appreciate very much.

One of our goals for this coming year is to publish Lineage Charts, as some of the other clubs are doing. This will be a great opportunity to let everyone know the lines being worked on, plus, put us in contact with others doing research on the same families. If you have either an abstract of your family history, lineage chart, or anything you think would be of value genealogically, please send it to my attention. Thanks again for your co-operation.

### Secretary/Treasurer's Comments:

The membership dues for 1989 are due as of January 1, 1989. For those who paid last year after September 1, 1988, your 1989 dues are already paid, since that was the SCGS cut off date. For those sending in the 1989 dues, please fill out the "Membership Renewal Notice" found elsewhere in our newsletter, and send it along with your check for the type of membership desired. Please let's take care of this right away so we can complete our paperwork on time.

### Lineage Charts:

We are still trying to put together a comprehensive work on families being researched by our members. Some have co-operated by sending in a number of lineage charts which we do appreciate, but many of our Individual Members and Associate Members still have to send in a chart. We urge each one to make this their New Year's Resolution, in taking the time not only to complete your charts, but send them in to be added to our collection.

### Cemetery Records:

Mrs. Lund, chairperson for the Cemetery Committee, hopes to get some volunteers from among our members to help "read" cemeteries not already surveyed. The Winter and early Spring months, weather permitting, will be a good time to continue our surveying. Please call Mrs. Lund at 656-9590 if you know of any cemeteries that have not already been published, or if you can volunteer your time to help with this project.

### 17th Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Genealogical Society - November 12, 1988.

The 17th Annual Meeting was held at the Town House, 1615 Gervais St., Columbia, SC, which was called to order by President Lynwood D. Jordan.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Harold Syfrett of the Charleston Chapter, and Mrs. Marie Craig of Columbia, being the Host Chapter, welcomed the 88 people present.

The Anderson County Chapter was welcomed by Dr. Jordan as being the newest Chapter which had joined SCGS, making it number 16.

There was a total of 199 Family Memberships, 1,667 Individual Memberships, for a total of 1,866 persons; plus 337 Associate Members made up from the 16 Chapters, totaling 2,203 members, broken down with years formed, as follows:

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Old Edgefield - 405 (1985)     | Columbia - 135 (1970)            |
| Pee Dee - 227 (1977)           | Dutch Fork - 126 (1985)          |
| Pinckney District - 183 (1977) | Old Ninety Six - 121 (1976)      |
| Greenville - 181 (1974)        | Old Pendleton Dist. - 84 (1977)  |
| Charleston - 146 (1974)        | Anderson Co. Chapter - 70 (1988) |
| Sumter Co. - 142 (1974)        | Catawba-Wateree - 55 (1986)      |
| Laurens District - 141 (1985)  | Fairfield - 34 (1987)            |
| Aiken-Barnwell - 140 (1985)    | Hartsville - 13 (1987)           |

Our goal, as stated by Dr. Jordan for next year, is to increase our numbers by 10%. Included also in the report, was a form report from each Chapter showing the Newsletter Heads, membership totals, times of meeting, dues, and Officers, which was very informative to us "new-comers". Dr Jordan recognized each Chapter by having those who attended, to stand.

The following Officers were elected for a two year term: Kay Manning - 1st V.P.; Joyce H. Ellis - Treasurer; Ge. Lee Corey Hendrix - Archivist/Historian.

Our Host for the 1989 Annual Meeting will be the Camden Chapter (Catawba-Wateree). More details on this meeting will be passed on as we receive it.

The speaker, Marie Richardson, Librarian, Richland County Public Library, was introduced by Marie Craig, Program Chairperson. Ms. Richardson's talk was on the availability and use of genealogical related materials in the various Public Libraries, and how to use them.

Membership Renewal Notice

Enclosed is my check for the type of membership indicated:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Individual      \_\_\_\_\_ \$13.00 Family      \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 Associate  
 State Number \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Chapter Membership \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Associate Members, please give State number, and name of Primary Chapter Membership).

Make checks payable to: Anderson County Chapter, SCGS, P.O. Box 5743, Anderson, SC 29623-5743. If you joined or paid your dues after September 1, 1988, your dues are paid for 1989.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

September 1, 1897

Dear Editor; The most enjoyable day of the season was that of a birthday dinner and family reunion at the beautiful home of our venerable friend and neighbor, Mr. N.A.J. Greer, who lives two miles west of Honea Path.

Fourteen years ago, Mr. Greer gave a dinner to his children. This time, he and his good lady not being physically able to make such an extensive preparation, their children and grandchildren took it upon themselves to furnish it.

At an early hour on the day mentioned, the children with their families, together with the invited guests, began to pour in. Every one, old and young, seemed to realize that it was a day set apart for real family enjoyment, and all were determined to make it a success.

At 11:30 a.m., the line was formed to march to the stand--about one hundred yards from the house, in a beautiful grove--where a speaker's stand and seats had been provided for the occasion.

Rev. M. McGee, present by special invitation, took the stand, and, after some appropriate remarks, read the 27th Psalm. Then, by request of Mr. Greer, "Pass me not, O Gentle Saviour," was sung, it being his favorite hymn.

The meeting then took a recess for dinner, which was spread on a table of perhaps forty feet in length, near the stand. It was a grand sight to see the aged parents, children, grandchildren and greatgrandchildren--fifty seven in number--together with half as many more relatives and friends, surround the table. Oh, it was a day of feasting and of joy and happiness! Everything that heart could wish to satisfy the inner man was before us. Every one seemed to realize that it was a double occasion (birthday and reunion), and we made double use of time. After dinner, it was decided that not more than half of the food things provided had been eaten.

After half hour's rest and social chat, we re-assembled at the stand, where the writer was asked to give a brief history of the Greer family, previously prepared, as follows:

David Greer, father of N.A.J. Greer, was born in Ireland, and died in Honea Path in 1855, aged 105 years. His wife was Polly Simms, daughter of Thomas Simms of Abbeville County. Martha Greer, wife of N.A.J. Greer, was the daughter of Laban Massey. Her mother was Esther Dowdle, daughter of John Dowdle, who lived four miles southeast of Anderson C.H. N.A.J. Greer was born the 25th day of August, 1819, and is now 78 years old. He married Martha Massey in 1840. She is two months his junior. They have lived in this community all their lives, except six years spent in Pickens County. They have had born to them thirteen children--five sons and eight daughters--five of whom are dead; forty-one grandchildren, four of whom are dead; twenty-two great-grandchildren, with six dead. Counting sons-in-law and daughters-in-law and husbands and wives of married grandchildren, we have a grand total of eighty-six souls.

In 1857 he joined the Barker's Creek Baptist Church. His wife joined the same Church twenty years earlier. They have lived consistent Christian lives, and have set an example before their posterity that is worthy of imitation.

Hymn, "Nearer, my God, to Thee," was sung, by request of Mrs. Greer, who says that is her constant prayer, as she grows older, that she may get nearer and nearer to her Lord and Master.

After a fervent prayer by Rev. B.P. Mitchell, we repaired to the house, where we found an artist, who arranged all to his liking, and took the group, the house being the background.

Thus the 25th day of August 1897, was passed—a day long to be remembered by those present.

The aged couple are reasonably stout and active, able to attend to their domestic duties, and bid fair to see the return of many more birthday occasions.

A.R. Cox

### "Early Settlers of the Fork"

William White, a native of Union County, came here about 1800. His children were all grown, or nearly so, and one of them, Thomas, father of the late Henry N. White, had married a Miss. Mayberry, before leaving Union. William White settled on the rugged hills that over look Portman Shoals on the Seneca River, and remained there till his death. Why he should have selected that location, where there was scarcely a foot of bottom land, is not explained, but that seemed to be the rule in that early day. Whether he was in the Revolutionary army or not, I have no definite information, but since he was of fighting age and of heroic mould, we may well suppose he was. He was a man of large build, unusually so, and had prodigious strength. It is said he scorned the use of a line to guide his horse as he plowed, and when the animal did move along to suit him, he would improve the speed with a jab on the plow stock, lifted clear from the ground by the handles as he moved along. When the weather got hot he would shed his clothes down to his shirt and plow on, and it was a familiar sight to see him passing to and fro over those river hills with "his yaller legs a-shinin'" to use the words of one of his sons. But notwithstanding his easy ability to wallop his fellow-man by reason of his grit and strength, he cultivated peace and lived on friendly terms with all men. He was endowed with great industry and worked steadily on his farm till the decrepitude of age laid him aside. He had the talent of property getting to a considerable degree, and owned a number of slaves. His sons, without exception, so far as I am advised, inherited this trait and one of his sons, Elijah, who did not come with the rest of the family from Union, and who went west eventually, acquired, it seems, considerably more of the polish of education and manners, as well as property, than did the others.

Mr. White was of a decidedly religious bent and he and all of his family, were Methodists. He was one of the first to espouse Methodism when it began to overspread South Carolina, about the close of the last century. When he came here, he established a preaching place where Cedar Grove Church now is, and it was for a long time known as White's Church, a log house, fell into decay and disuse and became the middle of a cultivated field. When in after years - 1870 a new church was erected on the same spot, amidst a dense growth of pines and cedars, it should have been called White's, in honor of the man to whom was probably due the distinction of being the founder of Methodism in the Fork.

His body, and those of some of his descendants are buried there. I should not forget to say, that Mr. White was a man of the strictest business integrity, and maintained throughout life a straightforward course among his fellowmen. He outlived his second wife, and spent his last days in the family of his son, Newton White, in the identical house now owned by John Shaw, the premises being a part of the original tract of William White. It had to be something out of the ordinary that kept the old man from observing family prayers, even in extreme age. One night his son Newton, with a friend, stayed rather late at the river seining. The old man waited. By and by the fishing party returned, and he called them to their knees. Under the combined sleep-producing effects of the long-drawn stereotyped petition that all the family knew by heart, and the blazing fire that thawed out the chilled fishermen, Newton fell fast asleep, and did not come to in time when the old man wound up. Newton's wife, seeing his predicament, gave him a pull with "If I was you,

'd get up." This brought him standing, and with a glance at his friend, he observed, "They keep such a h--l of a prayin' here that a fellow has no ease." But the old man, shuffling off to bed, neither saw or heard his son.

Only a short while before his death, Mr. White became unsettled on the subject of baptism, and wound up by joining the Baptists at Double Springs.

He had four sons, Thomas, Newton, William, and Elijah, and several daughters, one of whom married Samuel Dobbs, himself a native of Union. Dobbs, who had grown up under Mr. White's eye in Union, was an exemplary and promising young man, and was prospering when he sought Mr. White's daughter's hand in marriage. He found no objections from the father; "for" said he, bitterly in after years, when Dobbs had been pulled to the bottom round of the ladder by the wine cup, "I knew no young man in Union that I had rather given my daughter to than Sam Dobbs." Dobbs was living at what is known as the Col. Holland place when he married, and closed his life in a hovel somewhere near Broyles' mill, where he was keeping a mill, most likely for esquire Pickrell. He was the father of the celebrated Bill Dobbs, the memory of whose feats of strength till lingers among the older citizens of the Fork.

Anderson County Chapter  
P.O. Box 5743  
Anderson, SC 29623-5743

"Before most people start boasting about their family tree, they usually do a good pruning job." O.A. Battista