

# THE ANDERSON RECORD

*We pray that everyone is staying safe during this Covid-19 Pandemic. You  
and your families are in our prayers.*

## **100 years ago, America had a de-facto woman president!**

While on the campaign trail pushing for the U. S. to accept the League of Nations, President Wilson suffered a blood clot that caused paralysis, partial blindness, and brain damage. For the remainder of his term – another year and a half – he was, as Burns describes in his book **1920**, “an invalid at best, little more than a rumor at worst,” totally incapable of meeting with lawmakers, governing, or performing the duties of the presidency: the First Lady, Edith Wilson, stepped in and assumed his role. She controlled access to the president and made policy decisions on his behalf. When something needed to be signed or written, she wrapped her hand around his and scrawled words with a pen. The French ambassador to the United States reported back to his superiors that Wilson was a non-factor in governance. The real power rested with “Mme. President.”

Women had only gained the right to vote the year before, in 1920. By 1920, every state west of the Mississippi River allowed women to vote. Burns notes that “a mere nine states denied women the vote in all instances, and seven of those, to their inexplicable shame, were among the original thirteen colonies.” The last “yes” vote needed for ratification of the nineteenth Amendment, which provided for women’s suffrage, was Tennessee. In August of 1920, Tennessee voted in favor of the amendment.

Spring arrived on March 20, 2021. The warm days are calling to us to come out and get some sunshine and Vitamin D.

It’s been a year now since the research room closed down because of Covid 19. We are hopeful that we will be able to open back up in a month or two, when most of us have received the vaccine. But it will not be the same as when we had our wonderful librarian, Sue Sears. She loved to volunteer in the research room.

She was a great researcher and a good friend to all the volunteers. She always had a smile on her face when she came into the room. Our regular volunteers become like family to the rest of us. I miss our talks about our families and birthdays. Her little great granddaughter, Emmy, spent time with us. Even after we closed, we talked over her treatments and life. I now look at the chair she used to sit in and wish we could have spent the last year together without the Covid shut down. She will be missed.

I hope to see you all at meetings and in the research room again soon! *Shirley Phillips*

## **Where Did all the Southern Dough Go?**

In April 1865, when the Queen City of the South (Richmond, VA) fell to the advancing Union Army led by General U. S. Grant, there was a mass exodus from the Confederate Capital. People with influence and money left on one of several trains out of the downtown depot on the Danville, & Richmond line. Wealth and provisions from the Confederate Treasury and Archives were hastily put on board in boxcars; at the same time, the principal depository bank for Virginia withdrew several hundred thousand dollars in gold coins (and bullion) and placed the massive trove in the care and custody of the War Department of the CSA.

Destination? Unclear. Just keep going SOUTH and hopefully reach a place either west of the Mississippi or go into exile...

The so-called “Confederate Treasure Train” could have started out with as many as 8 separate locomotives—some may have been decoys. Regardless, by the time they reached Chesterville, South Carolina – then there was no more train-track...everything of value was loaded onto wagon trains...there was one more short hop by rail into Abbeville, South Carolina – then everything (from the CSA Treasury and the Richmond Banks) went back onto wagon trains comprised of

ambulances, farm carts, anything with wheels that could bear the weight of gold and silver by the ton (not to mention roughly \$600 million in Confederate currency and bonds).

The wagon trains had two obstacles, not only were the Federal troops in hot pursuit but the Confederacy was collapsing all around them – William Parker and a host of midshipmen were the train's only protection. What was loaded on board that made this worth protecting? Here's the short list...the CSA Treasury's official records showed the following (and multiply these figures by 25 to get today's equivalent value):

\$85,000 in gold coin (this may well have included gold coins struck in Dahlonega, GA and Charlotte, NC). They were shipped in heavy boxes.

\$35,000 in silver bars and coin, no doubt from New Orleans, shipped in wooden barrels. They rolled the silver coins this way in streets of Danville, Virginia – from the train to the Danville Bank and back...

\$36,000 in Mexican silver coin, much of which was in Mexican pesos – since the South continued selling cotton to its southern neighbor – (no need to run the blockades).

From here is where records and human memory don't always square – one SCA paymaster had estimated upwards of \$10 million in silver went aboard, due to the sheer weight. He also had recalled that the Federals captured some \$600,000 in silver ingots – the ingots, he recalled, didn't have much transactional value – so they hadn't disbursed them along the way for final payrolls and expenses.)

18,000 Pound Sterling in London Acceptances (a conditional British Line of Credit) was confiscated by the Union.

Another account was an interview with Walter Philbrook, First Teller of the CSA Treasury, stated that an undetermined amount of what he called silver and gold 'slugs' – made from the sweepings at the Dahlonega and Charlotte mints were part of the Treasury's assets. (Silver must have come from New Orleans, since there was no silver from GA or NC mints or mining operations.)

Lots of Copper Pennies – unspecified as to large or small cents, nor reports about how or if or where they were disbursed.

Confederate Paper Currency – An estimated \$600 million in Confederate Bonds and Paper Currency –

which was either tossed, since it was basically worthless and was just ballast in the end and/or it was torched in a huge bonfire in the vicinity of Washington (City), Georgia in early May '65, just before the Treasure Train was caught.

Separately, there were reports that some \$25,000 in British Gold Sovereigns were transported along with President Davis' personal effects, not connected with the CSA Treasury or the Richmond Bank trove.

Finally, the War Department took custody of roughly \$450,000 in gold coin – from three depository banks in Richmond. Plus private wealth in the custody of various Richmond banks was inventoried and placed on board one or more trains.

The story is captivating from the minute that the "Treasure Train" (now a wagon train made up of farm carts, ambulances, wagons – anything serviceable with wheels) first crosses the Savannah River – over a pontoon bridge – into Georgia between two river towns now submerged beneath 30 feet of water under the reservoir called Clarks Hill Lake.

There are a lot of old wives' tales of gold coins from the Richmond Banks being left behind in the vicinity of a forgotten town called Vienna, SC along the Savannah River...and on the Georgia side of the crossing was the "handsome" town of Petersburg, Georgia. These two towns were connected by a ferry before the War and then by a pontoon bridge during the War. The CSA / Richmond Bank trove wagon train(s) had to cross the Savannah River at this point. There are many rumors about gold – which was heavy and hard to transport – being buried at Vienna to lighten the load...If this is true, then when a power dam was built in 1954 (The Strom Thurmond Dam), both Vienna and Petersburg were flooded and forgotten. A drought in the early 2000's revealed the remains of many such river towns – witnesses to the Civil War – that had been unseen for decades. Who knows what was left behind there?

From Petersburg, the wagon train(s) headed to Washington, Georgia – accounts vary, but it appears that the bulk of the cash continued by rail (on the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company) to Augusta, where the CSA had its main arsenal for making munitions...This leads us to an interesting phenomenon of the era...transportation and finance were often joint ventures...Trains and Banking being one example – and Railroads and Banking being another natural (and powerful) combination "in the day."

And there were many handsome examples of scrip and notes from the mid-1800's that were created at the time, by firms such as the Southern Bank Note Company. (The CSA relied on Evans & Cogswell for much of its printing of banknotes and ephemeral.)

The Georgia Railroad and Banking Company helped finance the canal infrastructure of Augusta, paving the way for the city to become a thriving port city. And it was well-respected in the Deep South, when it provided free rides for Southern soldiers (mostly formerly in Johnston's Army of Tennessee) who were discharged and had little money. The Railroad did not pay dividends to shareholders in 1865 to offset the loss of revenue.

After the Civil War, the two enterprises did split – and the banking enterprise became known in the 20th century simply as The Georgia. And its downtown building became iconic in the 1960's. (It is now long gone – absorbed into other bigger banks, such as Wachovia and Wells Fargo.) By the first of May, as the Treasure Train was still evading capture, the Confederacy ended – first with the surrender of General Robert E. Lee (The Army of Northern Virginia) and then General “Old Joe” Johnston (The Army of Tennessee – which represented troops scattered throughout the entire Southeast). On top of that, the Treasure Train's outlook for escape grew even more bleak when President Lincoln was assassinated and the Federals doubled-down on their pursuit of both the Treasure Train and President Davis.

The first foray by wagon trains in Georgia was to head along a rough road that was headed towards Macon – pushing southwards. This path more-or-less follows the route of today's State Road 44. They passed through Union Point and probably Greensboro before Captain Parker learned that the Union troops had already taken Macon – so they had to turn back and try their luck elsewhere.

There is research from the late 1970's that strongly suggest that the wagon train passed through small hamlets north of Union Point called Buffalo Lick and Bethesda and Public Square – and several wagons became stuck in mud and were mired down. To get them “unstuck” and to pick up speed, the story goes that gold was removed and buried in that vicinity. Also, to gain speed, bales of Confederate currency were jettisoned because they had so little value and had

become mostly ballast, slowing down the effort to escape.

By the time the Treasure Train arrived in Georgia in early May, the value of Confederate paper money had become virtually worthless – and the gold and silver troves still on board had become nearly priceless ... so much so that the protective guard (led by Captain Parker) and Head Paymaster John Wheless decided to vacate the safety of Augusta. Why? They firmly believed that the Confederate workers at the Armory would become incensed because payrolls could not be met – and rumors of “hard specie” on the Treasure Train would make them easy targets for disgruntled Arsenal employees.

The wagon train meandered back to Washington (City) and the money from the Richmond Banks was separated from the CSA Treasury loot. This was the bulk of gold coin and bullion. Some \$450,000 was intended for Robert E. Lee's Army, had his surrender not happened. Bankers and a few watchmen were given the okay to return to Richmond with this immense haul (worth about 11 million today), but while still in Georgia – just a couple of miles from the (sunken) town of Petersburg, the lightly guarded Richmond Gold Wagon Train was attacked by bushwhackers – thought to be ex-Confederate cavalymen. They took some \$200,000+ of the money – much of it scattered about the ground. It is said that people scoured the area and nearby creeks for years, finding loose coins.

Some of the stray gold was recovered by the Union forces; some was heisted once more. Eventually, over \$100,000 in coin was swept up and sent to the US Treasury in Washington, D. C. – and a petition was filed in the US Court of War Claims (under the jurisdiction of the US House of Representatives). The petitioner – Isaacs & Co. – representing several failed banks – wanted to recover that money. It took 27 years of wrangling, fighting the Confiscation laws, until Isaacs & Co. recovered a small fraction, the rest went to the US Treasury in 1893, what was the longest lasting battle of the Civil War.

*This story was taken from the GNA Journal (Georgia Numismatic Association), January 2021 issue. We thought you might enjoy this piece of our history!*

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## **DNA Column - by Linda Rogers**

Genetic genealogy is an essential tool for genealogists. It is an important piece of evidence similar to a census record or land record. But DNA cannot answer all questions. I get asked often about what DNA can tell you. I thought I would tell you about several questions I answered recently, using DNA.

1. A man came to me asking about finding the home of his great grandfather. He had notebooks full of letters asking for info, all to no avail. He had his Y-DNA (DNA passed directly through the male line). It said his surname was different from his current surname that his family had used for four generations. With that DNA info, I was able to find his great grandfather had really been born with the new surname. His great grandfather's father had died when he and his siblings were young and the mother couldn't afford to raise the children so she gave the children to their aunts and uncles to raise. That was a fairly common occurrence back then. The last child went to the farm next door and they gave the child their last name, the name all the descendants had used since that time.
2. A lady had found her birth mother many years ago but the birth mother refused to tell her who her father was. Through DNA, I found the father, who was deceased, but all her half siblings made her feel like she had blood family!
3. A young man had discovered his birth mother was the person he considered to be his sister. She did not know who his father was. Through DNA, I found his father. He has met with him several times now and they share a common vocation.
4. A woman could not trace her family line back because her mother had been adopted. Her mother had died but through the daughter's DNA, I was able to find the birth parents (who lived in another state from where the mother was born!) She has been able to add to her family tree.
5. Recently, a woman wanted to help her brother-in-law find his birth family. He had his DNA done and we have found his birth parents. They are both deceased, but he has seven half sisters and brothers!

These are just some examples of how DNA can help. Most people use their DNA matches to locate cousins and see how they are related. DNA can help you

correct your family tree, too. One of our major works is to find adoptee's parents, but we help you with your research needs.

If this type of help can aid you, have your DNA test taken through Ancestry (the largest data base) and then call Linda Rogers for help (864) 659-4048 OR (314) 520-8655.

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## **Another DNA Story**

I was working on my brother-in-law's, Jerry Rhodes, genealogy. His family was from Oklahoma and he lives with my sister in California.

I was working on his 7X great grandfather, Rev. Adam White, a Scottish man who lived in Ireland. As I was reading the story of how he was imprisoned for 6 years for preaching at a Presbyterian Church, not the Church of England, it sounded very familiar.

I went to my husband's, Vance Rogers, tree and there was Rev. Adam White, my husband's 7X great grandfather. My husband and my brother-in-law are distant cousins!

Two of Rev. Adam White's sons came to America in 1722 and settled in what is now Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania. The oldest brother, Hugh White, moved on to Neshaminy, Chester Co., Pennsylvania, to a farm. He is my husband's 6X great grandfather. The other brother, Moses White, moved on to New Castle, Delaware, where he was a teacher. He is my brother-in-law's 6X great grandfather.

Don't you just love the amazing finds you discover doing genealogy?

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## **Cleaning of Gravestones by Linda Rogers**

Gravestones are usually composed of one of five types of stone.

**Slate: 1650-1900** – The earliest type of stone used, especially in Massachusetts. There was a supply of very high-quality slate to carve. They are usually thinner than marble but are mostly unaffected by the acid rain. The inscriptions are shallow but are often very readable.

**Sandstone: 1650-1890** – It is a sedimentary rock. They were the most common stone throughout the Connecticut River Valley. The largest group of Brownstone quarries was in Connecticut. It ranges in color from dark blond to shades of brown. It tends to delaminate and deteriorate quickly, turning back into

the sand from which it was formed.

Granite: 1860-current day – Igneous rock. It is the most durable of all-natural rocks. It is most commonly found in a gray color. Today it is used around the world.

Marble or Limestone: 1780-1930 – A sedimentary rock. It was the stone of choice in antiquity. It was most desired in its purest white form. Marble was white with a satin finish, when first installed in cemeteries; Limestone was usually darker and tended toward gray. They are both composed of calcium carbonate and are adversely affected by acid rain. Once they are weathered, they are hard to read, darker in color, stained and pitted.

### Cleaning

The first question should always be, “does this stone truly need cleaning.” People often mistake the patina of age for dirt. They want marble stones to be as white as when they were originally purchased. Every cleaning, no matter how gentle, has the potential to cause additional damage to the stone.

There are times when biological growth may be causing deterioration of the stone. In such circumstances it may become necessary to clean the stone.

Algae, lichen, fungi – can be hazardous to stones because they trap moisture on and under the surface of the stone. They secrete acids that can dissolve limestone, marble, sandstone, concrete, and mortar. They may insert their roots into the pores of the stone. These growths will swell and shrink in response to moisture, leading to cracking of the stone. Lichens vary from tiny particles of loose powder, to crust lichens firmly attached to a hard surface or flat leafy lobes that can be picked off.

Plant life- such as ivy, ferns and moss, may be hazardous to the stone because they have roots that will penetrate the stone. Plants should be gently pulled out of cracks or clipped, and then the soil or debris they were rooted in should be brushed away. If there is a mass of plant life, don't just yank it from the stone because you'll probably damage the stone. Carefully clip or pull away each section.

If you're cleaning stones, check if the solution is safe on stone or marble. Using solutions instead of water can cause staining and other damage. Do not use a weed whacker type trimmer.

### Cleaning techniques for type of stone:

Slate, Sandstone, Granite – clean water, non-ionic detergent, biocide solution

Marble, Limestone – Clean water, non-ionic detergent, biocide solution, ammonia and water solution, Calcium hypo-chloride solution.

### DO NOT PRESSURE WASH!

### A simple way to read old tombstones:

Old tombstones are often worn and difficult to read. Here is a simple trick to help you overcome this common problem. The next time you go to the cemetery, take a bottle of water with you. Pour the water over the face of the tombstone. It won't hurt the stone. It will make the indents on the surface of the stone stand out more.

**NOTE:** We have a member who will clean tombstones correctly and safely for a reasonable charge. If you are interested, contact the Research Center for additional information.



The *Anderson Intelligencer* broke the news on June 13, 1914 of a fantastic opportunity. With the investment of a mere \$5,000 (current dollar value \$130,800) a new industry would be at hand for Anderson County. The climate was right and the county was ideally situated for an addition to its agricultural community. Think of it, ostrich farming.

An ostrich hen could lay over 30 eggs a year and after maturing in some two years an ostrich could produce not less than 2 pounds of feathers per annum with a large market in New York and elsewhere available. African feathers exported in 1913 produced revenue of 15 million dollars.

A few entrepreneurs in Arizona and California had already jumped on the bandwagon. Fearing the potential in the United States, South Africa had already passed laws prohibiting exportation of ostrich.

The *Intelligencer* excitedly anticipated orders to be placed by Andersonians within a few days of publication.

But where have all the ostriches gone? Or did the people of Anderson just bury their heads in the sand?

– Submitted by Richard Otter

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## Identifying the Five types of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Photographs

Daguerreotypes – 1839

Ambrotypes – 1854

Tin Types – 1855

Carte de Visite (CDV) – 1859

Cabinet Cards – 1870

Our ancestors were amazed by the first photos they saw. They fell in love with photography, so inventors worked on developing new and cheaper ways to produce them.

In 1839, a patent was issued to a French man named Louis Daguerre for a way of capturing images on metal. Samuel Morse visited Daguerre in Paris and brought Daguerreotypes to America. In the 1850 Census, 938 males were listed with occupations of Daguerreotypists. Before long, people became unhappy with this process as the sittings were long and the pictures had to be held at a certain angle to be viewed.

In 1854, James Ambrose Cutting was issued a patent for the ambrotype. His invention substituted glass for the metal and backed the result with black material, usually velvet, or black paper, which made the photo appear as a positive image. It was cheaper than a Daguerreotypes.

In 1865, an Ohio chemistry professor named Hamilton Smith patented the process of coating an iron plate with light-sensitive chemicals, a ferrotype process was developed. They were called tin types because tin shears were used to cut the photos out of the iron sheets. Tin types were lighter than Daguerreotypes and would not break like ambrotypes. They remained in use from 1865 to the mid 1930's.

In 1859, Carte de Visite (CDV) was developed. Eight images could be captured on one negative and the pictures were mounted on calling card sized cardboard. People began collecting pictures of famous people. Later, by the 1880's, they became popular mounted on larger cardboard, about 7 x 10. These were called cabinet cards and are probably what most people own. Stereographs were also produced, where a camera with two lenses mounted about 2 ½ inches apart, were taken and mounted side by side. The difference in the pictures, when viewed through a stereoscope, produced an image that looked almost three-dimensional.

Candid photos appeared in the 1880's. Before you had

to go to a photographer's studio, but now amateurs could take them, by using a film and camera that George Eastman produced called a Kodak. As many as 100 photos could be taken on a single roll originally. When all the pictures were taken, the photographer sent the camera back to have the photos developed and the camera reloaded with film. Eventually the Kodak Brownie evolved and was originally sold for a dollar. Ansel Adams was given one for his birthday and took his first photos in Yosemite with it. And we all know the rest!

Hopefully, this recap will give you the ability to give a date to your photos.

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## IN MEMORY OF SUE SEARS

Sue Sears February 18, 1948 - January 10, 2021  
Kathleen Sue Sears, 72, wife of Roger D. Sears of Anderson, died Sunday, January 10, 2021 at AnMed Health Medical Center.

Born in Medina, New York on February 18, 1948, she was a daughter of the late John Bernard Hobbs and the late Miriam Pearl Williams Hobbs.

Sue worked for the State of New York in the Unemployment Division for several years before moving to South Carolina. She then worked for Anderson School District #5 and later for the Clemson University Science Hub. She was a parishioner at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Anderson and was also a researcher for the Anderson Chapter of the S.C. Genealogical Society, The Carolyn Duncan Research Center. She and her husband loved to travel, and they spent many hours together restoring aged tombstones in several Anderson and Townville area cemeteries.

She is survived by her husband, Roger D. Sears, daughter, Darcy Crenshaw (Keith), son, Michael Perritano, grandchildren, Meagan Crenshaw (fiancé, Thomas Trotter), Hope Seymour (Jarred), Jacob Crenshaw, Jada Perritano, Alaina Perritano and Keia Prior (Terry), and great-granddaughter, Emmalee Crenshaw.

She is also survived by two of her siblings, Lois Kenyon (Tom) and Jack Hobbs, her stepdaughters, Julie Sears Smith (Russell) and Crystal Sears Richardson, her step-grandchildren, Haley Smith, Brendon Richardson, and Payton Richardson and her very special friends, Gretchen Howell (Pat) and Christian.

## Membership Application

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you on Facebook? ☐ YES ☐ NO

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a change of information? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SC Genealogical Society – State Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Surnames being researched:***

Please list below the Family Surnames of those you are researching. Please include full names, known dates, and areas in Anderson and surrounding counties. *Use the back of this form if you need more space to add a surname.*

Surname, Given	Locations (City or County)	Dates

☐ **New Member**

☐ **Renewal**

☐ **ASSOCIATE** - \$15.00 - I am a primary member of another SCGS Chapter.

SCGS Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ SCGS Member # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **INDIVIDUAL** - \$25.00 - Membership for one person.

☐ **FAMILY** - \$30.00 - Membership for 2 people, within the same household.

Name of 2<sup>nd</sup> person: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Donation** - \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Cash

☐ Check

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: ACGS**

**Mail to:** ACC, SCGS, 110 Federal St, Anderson, South Carolina 29625

- THE ANDERSON RECORD
- VOLUME 34 ISSUE I

ANDERSON COUNTY CHAPTER  
OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA  
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### CAROLYN DUNCAN RESEARCH CENTER

**NOTE: THE RESEARCH CENTER IS CURRENTLY OPEN ON TUESDAY AND THURSDAY IF WE HAVE A VOLUNTEER AVAILABLE. PLEASE CALL THE CENTER BEFORE COMING TO CONFIRM THE CENTER IS OPEN. WE WILL OPEN OTHER DAYS BY APPOINTMENT. AGAIN, CALL TO CONFIRM.**

**NORMAL RESEARCH HOURS: TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY—10 AM TO 4 PM**

**SATURDAY 10 AM—2 PM (OTHER HOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)**

**LOCATED: 110 FEDERAL STREET, AT THE ANDERSON COUNTY ARTS CENTER, BESIDE THE FARMERS MARKET—ENTER THE DOORS FOR “VISIT ANDERSON”**

MEETINGS—We hope to restart Monthly meetings in May. They are held the first Monday of each month at 7 pm at Senior Solutions, 3420 Clemson Blvd., Anderson, SC.

Programs are presented that are of interest to genealogy researchers. Check the website for program topics. Come early and discuss your family research with our members.

Light refreshment will be provided when we feel it is safe to do so.

<http://www.andersoncounty.scgen.org>

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