



# GREENVILLE

# CHAPTER

South Carolina Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 16236  
Greenville, SC 29606

[www.greenvillegenealogy.org](http://www.greenvillegenealogy.org)

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NEWSLETTER: Volume XXXII, Number 1, January 2006

Editor: William D. Kivett

## January Meeting

January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

First Christian Church – 704 Edwards Road

Featuring

### Meet your Fellow Members

Individual Introductions

and

Relating of Surnames

being

Researched

As a follow up to the introductions printed in this issue for the new Co-Presidents and Vice President, here's a chance for all in attendance to tell other members who you are and what families you are researching. This is not to be a "Show and Tell", but an informal session to permit members to get to know each other better. Please come prepared to stand up and say who you are, and tell a FEW words about your background and genealogical interests. A moderator will preside to ensure that your message is brief, so that all can have a chance to have their say.

Hopefully we will all learn something new from our own considerable member base of genealogy experts which can lead to further sharing after this unique meeting format.

## Greenville Chapter, SCGS Offices and Board Members

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<b>Co-Presidents:</b>	Susan Phillips Finlay Jane Watson Chandler	<b>Members at Large:</b>	Marion Whiting Wanda Randle
<b>Vice President:</b>	Henrietta Sweeney	<b>Corresponding Secretary:</b>	Shirley Beacham
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Patricia Swygert	<b>Archivist:</b>	Carol Leake
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dot Hawkins	<b>Parliamentarian:</b>	John Ice
<b>State Representative:</b>	Pat Frieler		

## From the Two New Co-Presidents' Desks

Dear Members,

The New Year brings new beginnings and we are looking forward to serving as co-presidents of the Greenville Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society, Inc. for 2006 - 2007. We are excited about working with the current officers to ensure growth, diversity, and innovative programming for the organization.

It will take the involvement and participation of all members to achieve these goals. We are looking forward to sharing and exchanging ideas with everyone, for only with your help will we be able to achieve great things within the Greenville Chapter.

Along with new ideas, we want to preserve the best of traditions. The family history program, with members presenting their family history in an informal setting was very well received and we hope to make that a yearly tradition. We hope to promote the ongoing endeavors for publications of genealogical research, along with preservation of various records and cemeteries, reporting on family reunions and a continually updated web site.

We are a genealogy organization, but as any good genealogist knows, the history of their family is entwined with the history of the area where they lived. We want to know if your family was involved in a historical event or if you are doing something now to preserve and recognize the historical contributions of your ancestors.

It is an honor to lead the Greenville Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society, Inc., into a new year. We thank you for this opportunity.

Susan Phillips Finlay and Jane Watson Chandler  
Co-Presidents  
Greenville Chapter SCGS

## Meet the Presidents

**Susan Phillips Finlay** was born and has lived in Greenville, SC all of her life. She has four children, and one grandson. She works in accounting in the Corporate office at Bi-Lo in Mauldin,

“From the time I was a child I have had a love for history. When I discovered and combined genealogy with my study of history, it was a match made in Heaven. The 1800's and early 1900's are my favorite time periods to research, as well as the events of the twentieth century leading up to the growth and modernization of the New South. I have a particular interest in preserving the past for our children and future generations.”

As Cemetery Chairwoman for the John Watson (I) Reunion Susan has led documentation and preservation for several family cemeteries. There are many other cemeteries she would like to see preserved before it is too late. “Cemeteries are one of the few, and in some cases the only, tangible remnants of an earlier time. Recording them will preserve the past forever,” she likes to say.

Susan looks forward to working with Jane, Henrietta, and the other officers and members to make the next two years productive for the Greenville Chapter, and also working on projects that will last far beyond this near term to benefit everyone with roots in this area .

**Jane Watson Chandler** describes herself as a Greenville County girl, born and raised, who has never left. She and husband David will have been married 30 years in 2006. They have two children, and two grandchildren.

Since 1995 she has been the John Watson [I] Reunion Chairperson. This reunion has been held in Greenville for over 60 years

“Genealogy is something I started at an early age. When I was 10 years old an aunt helped me fill in the family tree in my Bible. So, I have been digging up dead people for over 40 years. I believe that preserving old records of Greenville County is a vital mission. Collecting church histories and making sure that they are on microfilm, adopting and cleaning abandoned cemeteries, and doing a survey of Woodlawn Memorial Park are just some of the projects that I recommend we undertake. I look forward to these next 2 years serving as your Co-President.”

## Meet the Vice President

**Henrietta Sweeney** is a native of Greenville, SC, and mother of two children. A graduate of Greenville's J. L. Mann high school, she attended Spartanburg Methodist College and Fisk University in Nashville, TN. Her graduate study was done at the University of South Carolina and the University of Mississippi School of Law in Oxford, MS, where she completed her Master's Degree.

As a young child, Henrietta's maternal grandmother would show her old family pictures she kept in a shoe box. Her “Grammy” would tell her the names of the folks pictured, and information about their lives and personalities. At the time, Henrietta did not realize how meaningful this exercise would be to her later passion for learning all she could about her ancestors. Still in possession of these family “shoe box pictures”, she has researched many of those photographed. This work has lead her to organize first time family reunions, allowing her to meet relatives from all across the country, and continue this legacy of family picture sharing.

Henrietta's hobby is researching. She has successfully traced her family's history back to her Revolutionary War ancestors, culminating in June 2005 of her approval for membership in the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. During her research, Henrietta was proud to learn that she and fellow Greenville Chapter member, Charles Latimer, have the same American revolutionary ancestor, Hewlett Sullivan, Sr.

## Bob's Outgoing Thoughts

Fellow members,

I have done my best to be a good president for this Chapter. I did accomplish some things during my term in office. I had more projects in mind and I have passed my thoughts on to my successors.

After the smoke of the election cleared away, our Chapter ended up with two presidents (actually Co-Presidents). Although this is an unusual step that I don't believe has been done before, I feel that Susan Finlay and Jane Chandler together will do an outstanding job. Both of them have a very good handle on the tasks that lie ahead of them. I would ask that you give them the same respect and cooperation that you have always shown to me.

As past president, I am still a member of the board and will offer advice if called upon. I offer my deepest appreciation and thanks to all who have worked so hard to help our chapter and me.

**Bob Frieler,**  
Past President

# News and Announcements

## February South Carolina Room Tour

On Saturday, February 4, at 9:30 AM, Suzanne Case will be conducting an in-depth tour of the Greenville Hughes Library's SC Room, describing what resources are available and how to use them. After the tour she will stay behind until 1 PM to offer more detailed hands-on help with genealogical research for anyone that needs it.

To sign-up, call 242-5000, ext. 2269. Registration is limited to 10 persons. If the tour is already filled when you call, please ask to have your name put on the waiting list for the next tour to be held in May, 2006.

## Genealogy Classes at Furman Univ.

Reprinted here is the course description taken from the Furman University Winter 2006 Continuing Education Brochure:

### *Genealogy: Discovering Your Family Tree* Bill Kivett

*Learn to research your family history and uncover your own roots. From Bill's extensive experience conducting genealogy research and having taught a number of classes, you will be warned of typical blunders and enticed by the thrill of discovery. Best practices with research tools and resources, including personal (family Bibles, letters, interviews) and public records (local, state, cemetery, census) will be introduced.*

*The class will explore the accepted standard recording of data and organizational methods both on paper and via computer. You will receive help with effectively managing and sharing collected records. You will discover additional techniques and resources with a review of current and evolving technology, such as DNA testing, GPS locating, digital data archiving and computerized historical photo restoration.*

*This class is designed for the beginner to obtain a thorough overview and will take those already "bitten by the bug" to a more proficient level. Extensive instructional materials included.*

*(037C07) Wed., 10 sessions, Feb. 1 – Apr. 5  
6:30 – 8:00 PM FH110 \$119*

See the following Web Site for enrollment details:

<http://www.furman.edu/lifelong/winter06.pdf>

## 2006 Dues

Please check the mailing label of this month's newsletter. If there is a "[2005]" following your name, it means that we have "messed up" and not yet recorded your 2006 renewal – or, maybe you have neglected to mail in your payment. You may use the form included in this issue.

## Greenville Chapter, SCGS December 1, 2005 General Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Greenville Chapter S.C. Genealogical Society was the annual Christmas party, held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Lee. In the absence of President Bob Frieler, Dot Hawkins, Treasurer, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. She welcomed members and guests.

There was only one item of business to discuss, namely the election of officers, to take office in January 2006. The slate of officers is as follows:

Co-Presidents: Susan Finlay and Jane Chandler  
Vice President/Program Chair: Henrietta S. Sweeney  
Recording Secretary: Patricia Swygert  
Parliamentarian: John Ice

Officers continuing their terms are:

Corresponding Secretary: Shirley Beacham  
Treasurer: Dot Hawkins  
Archivist: Carol Leake  
State Representative: Pat Frieler

Dr. Charles Latimer made a motion that the slate of officers be accepted and elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried by the members in attendance.

Vice President Henrietta Sweeney announced that she had a speaker to volunteer for the January meeting. He will speak on Confederate Soldiers.

The next scheduled Chapter meeting will be Thursday, January 5, 2006, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM, and the party continued.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Swygert,  
Recording Secretary

## 2005 Holiday Party

Again this December, chapter members and friends were treated to a special evening of warm holiday cheer by Dr. and Mrs. Charles Lee at their lovely Greenville manor home. The festivities were placed on hold for a brief period to elect and introduce new chapter officers. On behalf of all members who were able to attend the elegant event, sincere appreciation to the Lees for their always gracious hospitality.

# **New Year Resolutions - Genealogy Mistakes Not to Make**

Excerpted from [genealogy.about.com](http://genealogy.about.com) by Wm. D. Kivett 11 Sep, 2002 – Further condensed Dec, 2005

## **MISPELLING THE WORD “GENEALOGY”**

This is fairly basic, but many people new to genealogy research have trouble spelling the word GENEALOGY. This may not seem as if it is a big deal, but if you want to appear professional when you are posting queries or want people to take your family history research work seriously, you will need to learn to spell this and other common words correctly. Believability is critical, and nothing kills this quicker than such an obvious inattention to detail.

## **TRUSTING EVERYTHING YOU SEE IN PRINT**

Just because a family genealogy or a record transcription has been written down or published does not necessarily mean that it is correct. You should never make assumptions about the quality of the research of others. Anyone can make mistakes, including certified genealogists. Most printed genealogies are likely to include at least a minor error or two, and some may even be completely off base.

## **“WE’RE RELATED TO ...” [SOMEONE FAMOUS]**

Many people become involved in genealogy research in the first place because they share a surname with someone famous and ASSUME that it means that they are somehow related to that renowned individual. While this may eventually be proved to be true, it is very important not to jump to any conclusions and begin your research at the wrong end of your family tree! Just as you would research any other surname, you need to start with yourself and work your way back to the supposed “famous” ancestor.

## **JUST RECORDING NAMES AND DATES**

Genealogy is about much more than how many names you can enter or import into your database. Rather than being concerned about how far back you’ve traced your ancestors; What did they look like? Where did they live? How did they make their living? What events in history helped shape their lives, and how did they maybe shape some of this history? One of the best ways of learning more about your family’s special place in history is to interview your older living relatives, and searching for old letters.

## **BEWARE OF GENERIC FAMILY HISTORIES & FAMILY CRESTS**

They show up in magazines, your mailbox, and on the Internet – advertisements which promise “A family history of “[Surname] in America” Most contain only a listing of names and addresses of living individuals of that surname derived from phone book or other publicly available listings – and always accompanied by an eloquently described, but usually bogus “Family Crest”.

## **ACCEPTING HANDED-DOWN FAMILY LEGENDS WITHOUT QUESTION**

Most families have stories and traditions which are handed down from generation to generation. Just because your Great-Grandma Mildred says that it happened that way, doesn’t always make it so! Investigate for yourself, and if unable to prove or disprove a family legend, you can still include it in the narrative section of your records. Just be sure to note what is proven and not proven, and write down how you arrived at what you think is most likely correct.

## **LIMITING YOURSELF TO THE CURRENT SPELLING OF YOUR SURNAME**

When you have trouble locating a specific ancestor in genealogical records, the first thing you should do is search by variations in the spelling of your family’s surname. You will find that surnames are frequently misspelled in official records. Sometimes a name was written as it sounded, or just misspelled by accident. Some computerized search methods, and the SOUNDEX system may help discover lost ancestors under such name variations.

## **NEGLECTING TO WRITE DOWN YOUR SOURCES & FILE COPIES OF RECORDS**

Never neglect to write down where you got your information, including the name of the source, its location, and the date you obtained it. If practical, obtain your own photocopy of the source document, index it, and file it so it can be located again later. It helps to further your reputation to be able to quote from a primary source and supply a copy, if necessary, to other researchers.

## **ASSUMING EVERYTHING YOU FIND ON THE INTERNET IS RELIABLE**

The first rule of genealogy is to always maintain a healthy skepticism. With the explosion of genealogy information on the Internet, this has become even more necessary. Contact the posting researcher directly and get to know their sources and methods better. Serious and sincere contributors will be happy to discuss their sources, admit unproved listings, welcome challenges and corrections, and offer further assistance.

## **PUTTING OFF TALKING TO OLDER RELATIVES**

“If only I had ...” is the lament that you often hear from genealogists who regret putting off visits with elderly relatives who have since passed away. Family members are a genealogist’s #1 source, and often the ONLY source for the stories which bring our family history to life. Visiting with your relatives should be at the top of every genealogist’s “to-do” list. Most are eager to share their stories about “the old days”. If you just can’t visit with them right now, try writing to your relative with a list of questions.

# PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. One. 1977. 485 p., indexed. Includes 105 cemeteries.  
\$38.00 plus \$3.75 s. & h.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Two. 1979, reprint 2003. 489 p., indexed. Includes approximately 75 cemeteries.  
\$38.00 plus \$3.75 s. & h.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Three. Springwood Cemetery. Out of Print. Won't be reprinted. Springwood is working on a new book of their cemetery.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Four. 1982. reprint 2005. 313p, indexed.  
Includes 36 cemeteries. \$30.00 plus \$3.50 s. & h.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Five. 1983. reprint 2005. 346 p., indexed. Includes 2 cemeteries.  
\$32.00 plus \$3.50 s. & h.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Six. 2000. 188 p., indexed. Includes Christ Church Episcopal and African-American cemeteries.  
\$25.00 plus \$2.75 s. & h.

Mackey Mortuary Death Records, 1889-1921, Greenville County, S.C. 2000. 502 p., alphabetical and date order.  
\$40.00 plus \$3.75 s. & h.

Abstracts of Extant Greenville, S.C., Newspapers Concerning Black People Free and Slave, 1826-1865, Vol. II. 2000. 58 p., indexed.  
\$10.00 plus \$2.75 s. & h.

1790 Census Index and 1800 Census. 1999. 48 p. \$12.50 plus \$3.25 s. & h.

All volumes soft cover, 8½" x 11".

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>S &amp; H.</u>
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol One	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Two	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Four	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Five	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Six	_____	_____
_____	Mackey Mortuary Death Records	_____	_____
_____	Abstracts ... Newsp. Concerning Black People	_____	_____
_____	1790 Census Index and 1800 Census	_____	_____
	<b>Total</b>		

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Make checks payable to GREENVILLE CHAPTER, SCGS, and mail to P.O. BOX 16236, GREENVILLE, SC 29606-6236

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TELEPHONE (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Do you have a genealogist friend or maybe a relative you've just discovered who might like to join this chapter? Please use this form to send their application (or your renewal) and check to the following address:

**Greenville Chapter SCGS**  
**P. O. Box 16236**  
**Greenville, SC 29606-6236**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

New: \_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_ (check one) Membership Type (circle one)

**Individual:** ----- \$ 21.00

**Family:** (you and one other) You receive one ----- \$ 26.00  
copy of the chapter publications and the State's  
Carolina Herald for two members at the same  
address.

**Associate:** (must be a primary member of another ----- \$ 15.00  
S. C. chapter to join as an associate)  
That chapter pays the State's dues. An associate  
receives the local chapter publications, but not the  
Carolina Herald. The Herald is sent to the primary  
member of the other chapter.

List the primary S. C. chapter name \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Chapter SCGS # \_\_\_\_\_

Surnames of Families you are researching \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you want us to publish your E-mail or home address in the Newsletter so members can contact you if they find they are researching the same surnames.

**Circle one:                  email address                  home address                  neither**

Greenville Chapter  
S.C. Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 16236  
Greenville, SC 29606-6236

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# **January Meeting**

**January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.**

**First Christian Church - 704 Edwards Road**

**Meet your Fellow Members**

**Individual Introductions**

and

**Relating of Surnames**

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**Researched**

**Bring a friend!!**