



GREENVILLE

CHAPTER

South Carolina Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 16236
Greenville, SC 29606

www.greenvillegenealogy.org

NEWSLETTER: Volume XXXII, Number 3, March 2006

Editor: William D. Kivett

March Meeting

March 2nd, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

First Christian Church – 704 Edwards Road

Featuring

**“The Lebanese Families Who Arrived in
Greenville County Before 1950”**

by

Elizabeth Whitaker

Miss Whitaker's main interests are the history of Southern Catholics and that of ethnic groups in the South – little explored areas of study. For her program this month she has chosen to highlight the story of Lebanese immigration, with emphasis on those who came to the South. Thousands of these mostly Christian farmers left what is now Lebanon between 1880 and 1948, for a combination of reasons. Most Lebanese who emigrated to the U. S. arrived in the Northeast, and went to work in factories there. In the 1890s, Lebanese who had first settled in the Northeast and their children began migrating again to the South. Here in South Carolina, most Lebanese immigrants owned stores and small eating places, but some, primarily in the Pee Dee, owned farms. A few even worked in state and local government soon after arriving in South Carolina.

Elizabeth Whitaker received a BA degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1979. Following these studies she has been employed for over 20 years in several occupations, the latest as student archivist in the Special Collections Unit of the Clemson University Library. Currently in the process of completing her MA in History there at Clemson, she has plans to eventually pursue a doctorate degree.

Greenville Chapter, SCGS Offices and Board Members

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

From the Co-Presidents' Desks

Dear Members,

We are having fun getting to know and work with everyone in the Chapter. Several new members have joined since our term began, and we welcome you. We can't stress involvement in the Chapter enough! It's fine if your purpose is to attend the meetings and make contact with other researchers, but if you want to become involved on a committee or project, please tell us. So many people think that if they're not asked, they're not needed, but there is room for everyone who wants a more active part in the Chapter. We will have a sign up sheet for committees at the March 2, 2006 meeting.

There is a real need to increase public awareness of our Chapter. One way to do this is by promoting our projects and programs in the Greater Greenville area and we are looking for ways to do this. Another way to create a higher profile is through our web site, and we are lucky to have Mel Odom as administrator of the site. We are going to start posting the family reunions that have been submitted, and hope to add more pages and categories to the web site. And once again, this leads straight to member input and involvement on committees. We need creative minds to help us achieve these goals.

These cold days and long nights of winter are perfect for genealogical research; we hope you are all having much success knocking down those brick walls.

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

News and Announcements

Chapter Archives

A group of dedicated Chapter members met at the office of Carol Leake, Chapter Archivist, on Saturday, January 28, to continue archiving the holdings of the Greenville Chapter. A list of publications and their contents is being prepared as the material is archived, and will be available to Chapter members when this project is completed.

May South Carolina Room Tour

Susan Boyd will be conducting the next tour of the SC Room of the main (Hughes) Library on Tuesday, May 16th from 6:00-9:00 P.M. To sign-up, call 242-5000, ext. 2269. Registration is limited to 10 persons

Greenville Games

The First Annual Greater Greenville Scottish Games and Highland Festival on SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2006 will bring together generations and cultures in a celebration that embraces the complete complement of traditional Scottish Highland games--the skirl of pipes, the sway of the tartans, the grace of the dancers, the strength of the athletes. You'll enjoy culturally educational events, sanctioned competitions, and a wide range of family entertainment:

Friday Night Main Street Parade, Downtown Greenville
Saturday Events at Furman University, Greenville, SC

All-access admission fee is \$15 per adult

For more information about this event which showcases another ethnic culture – maybe that of some of your own ancestors, please check out the following web site:

<http://www.greenvillegames.org/main.htm>

One Last Reminder

Please look closely at the mailing label of this month's newsletter. If there is a "[2005]" following your name, and there is also a **Green Sticker UP HERE** -----^ it means that we have not yet recorded your 2006 membership renewal. For the next few days you can still correct this situation. Just mail the completed membership form included in this issue along with your check for the appropriate amount, payable to: Greenville Chapter SCGS.

During March we will unfortunately be required to remove the names of all still unpaid 2006 renewals from the chapter mailing list. Please devote immediate attention to this matter, to ensure that you will not miss receiving your copies of future Chapter and State publications.

WE HOPE THIS IS NOT GOOD-BY

Committee Involvement

Any organization relies on direct personal involvement from its general membership to survive and grow. Here's another chance for all to help. There will be a sign up sheet for committees passed around at the March 2nd Chapter meeting. Please look over the duties of each committee listed below and see where your talents could best be put to use. Then, take that next step and sign up to join a committee to become a full participating member. Together, we can succeed in making our Greenville Chapter even better.

The Program Committee: They arrange such public programs as the Chapter may desire during the year. Current membership includes Susan Finlay, Jane Chandler, and Henrietta Sweeney.

The Public Relations and Membership Committee: This now combined role committee is headed by Wanda Randle. Actively developing Chapter membership by seeking out potential members using any effective means available (media, membership programs, etc.) is the main goal. It also is responsible for promoting the aims and activities of the Chapter through news media serving the Greenville area. Wanda, as its only current member, asks for some help!

The Projects Committee: This committee is responsible for planning, promoting, and encouraging those activities determined by the Chapter to be its projects. It includes as many members as necessary to carry out both local and State projects. Current members are Chuck Latimer and Suzanne Matson.

The Refreshment Committee: This committee is responsible for hosting a light refreshment and fellowship period at each Chapter meeting, where applicable. Alice Latimer, head of this committee, has been successful in obtaining volunteers to serve at several upcoming meetings, as listed later in this newsletter, but always welcomes more participants.

The Publication Committee: This very busy committee is responsible for all Chapter publications – Cemetery & Funeral Home Books, Journal, Newsletter, Web Site, etc. Current membership includes Bob and Pat Frieler, Wendy Campbell, Doris Bramlett, Mel Odom, and Bill Kivett. Members generally work on one type of publication, each of which always requires input and help from others on a continuing basis, or for occasional special assignments.

The Acquisitions Committee: This committee is responsible for informing the membership about the kinds of materials and records that comprise significant genealogical data, and encouraging the membership to seek the acquisition of such material to add to the permanent archives of the Chapter. Members work closely with the Archivist in preserving and making these materials accessible, and with the Publications Committee to regularly inform members about any new acquisitions. They also arrange for appropriate memorials for deceased members of the Chapter. Current membership includes Carol Leake, Bruce Reynolds, and Kitty Thielkle.

Feb. '06 Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Greenville Chapter S.C. Genealogical Society was called to order at 7:05 PM by Co-President Susan Finlay. She welcomed the members and asked if any guests or new members were present. She introduced several guests and new members.

Reports of Officers and Board Members Present:

Co-President Susan Finlay reported on the State Meeting and distributed information regarding the Publications Competition to be held at the Annual Meeting, the Summer Workshop topics and a questionnaire for upcoming chapter programs. The next State Meeting will be May 13, and the Annual Meeting will be in October in Marion, SC. The Summer Workshop dates are July 8-9, 2006.

Recording Secretary Patsy Swygert had no further report, as the January minutes were printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer Dot Hawkins gave the Treasurers Reports for January 2006.

Wanda Randle circulated the sign-in sheet and reported on membership dues paid to date.

Archivist Carol Leake reported on the success of the January 28th workday to organize the archive materials. She thanked the members for the work accomplished and said anyone is welcome to come see the material stored at her office.

A motion was made to accept the officers' reports and the January minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Charles Latimer reported on upcoming family reunions. He asked members to contact him to add any reunions to his list.

In the absence of his wife, Charles Latimer reported on the Refreshment Committee. The refreshment list will be published in the Chapter Newsletter from now on. May will be a covered dish dinner with a short program.

New Business:

Co-President Jane Chandler announced that a membership list with contact information and surnames would be compiled. She asked if anyone had any objections to publishing this information. There were no objections. Wanda Randle, Membership Chair, said that the consent form for publishing this information is on the application and renewal forms, with opportunities to opt out if the member wanted.

Minutes (cont.)

Co-President Jane Chandler brought the board recommendation to the members to change the Chapter Bylaws to combine the Public Relations Committee and the Membership Committee. Discussion followed. A motion was made to accept this change. It was seconded and the motion carried.

Program:

Jeff Goodman of *Creative Memories* discussed the importance of "Preserving Your Photographic Heritage," not only with pictures but with the stories that go with the pictures.

Next Scheduled Meetings:

The next scheduled Board meeting will be Thursday, March 2, 2006, from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM. The next scheduled Chapter meeting will be Thursday, March 2, 2006, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Swygert - Recording Secretary

2006 Family Reunions

The following information has been reported about upcoming regional family reunions. Contact the indicated individuals for more details, or look for more in future chapter newsletter editions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Family Surname(s)</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
20 - 23 April	Bobo	Clinton, SC	N/A
Contact Robert G. "Bob" Bobo :TwoBos@PeoplePC.com or Chuck Bobo:http://familybobo.org/reunions/html 3101 Thurmand Rd. - # H-22, Huntsville, AL 35805			
11 June	Sullivan / Dunkling	Lebanon Meth. Ch.	After 11 AM Ch. Service
Late Spring	Bolt	Hickory Tavern Presb. Church [Laurens Co.]	After 11 AM Ch. Service
12 - 13 August	Stewart	Fairview Presb. Presb. Church	N/A
Contact Charles Stewart: (864) 476-3914 or (864) 476-2267			
26 Aug.	Berry / Gaines / Harrison	Fork Shoals Bapt. Ch.	10 AM

Future Meeting Plans

These featured presentations and refreshment volunteers have been selected for the remaining regular chapter meetings between now and our annual summer break:

March 2, 2006 - Elizabeth Whitaker - "The Lebanese Families Who Arrived in Greenville County Before 1950"

Refreshments by Jane Chandler and Susan Finlay

April 6, 2006 - Webster Jones and Ron Hamilton - A Presentation on the History and Collections of the Greenville County Confederate Museum

Refreshments by Jennine Blair and Morn Lindsay

May 4, 2006 - Carol Leake - "A History of the Hightower Family", including highlights of Carol's research in Scotland"

"Covered Dish" buffet by various members

June 1, 2006 - Mike Trinkley - "Chicora Foundation" his specific topic in the area of preserving historic cemeteries and markers will be announced later.

Refreshment providers not yet identified – want to volunteer ?

Editor's "Unusual Genealogy" Musings

All too often even the experienced genealogy buff falls into the habit of thinking everyone's ancestral trail extended back through Colonial days, and for most, on back to England or some part of Western Europe. This month's presenter reminds us with her unusual genealogy topic that some of us "old timers" should broaden our views to better understand the origins and history of today's Americans.

Many of us are somewhat aware of the research frustrations of those Americans whose ancestry lines follow the dark path back to times of slave ownership. They often lose all traces of their ancestors around 1860, just a few generations back, right here in the South. Only a fortunate few can identify their surnames as those assumed by Southern plantation owners, and occasionally then only because of unconventional parental relationships. It is just the very exceptional individual with such ancestry, like Alex Haley, who can ever hope to find and pass on their true African "Roots".

So many of today's American citizens came later to this "Promised Land" – Potato Famine survivors or maybe one of those 12 million others who were processed between 1892 and 1954 through Ellis Island. Just to fill out a 4-generation chart requires them to research records in countries across the Atlantic Ocean. And, a growing number of those we see on our streets today have grandparents, or parents, who crossed the Pacific or came from Mexico or other Latin American countries. An ever growing number of our neighbors are, themselves, immigrant Americans from non-European places.

They, too, have valid interests and needs to know and preserve the names and culture of their ancestors. We, as genealogy society members, are called to be more appreciative of and helpful to these with "alternate" backgrounds and cultures. After all, each of us are descendants of immigrants. Even the so called "Native Americans" are believed through DNA classifications to have crossed over land bridges ages ago. It's just a matter of when they made their journey, and how some now have to resort to more difficult methods of research. Let's be prepared to hear part of all this at our March meeting, and to open our minds and hearts to helping those with a more recent immigration history

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 & 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	_____	_____
	Total		

TOTAL ENCLOSED

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

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March Meeting

March 2nd, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

First Christian Church – 704 Edwards Road

**“The Lebanese Families Who Arrived in
Greenville County Before 1950”**

by

Elizabeth Whitaker

Bring a friend!!