

NEWSLETTER: Volume XXXVI, Number 2, February 2010

Editor: Susan P. Finlay

February Meeting

February 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. First Christian Church – 704 Edwards Road

Dr. Anne Blythe of the Upcountry History Museum

Dr. Anne Blythe, former Curator at the Upcountry History Museum, Greenville, SC, will be the featured speaker at our February chapter meeting. Dr. Blythe has recently retired to focus on other things that she wants to do. She is a native of Greenville, a 7^{h} generation Blythe descendant. She writes poetry, fly fishes, and shoots and lives on the middle Saluda River in the River Falls community, near Jones Gap State Park. Dr. Blythe just recently married her very first boyfriend; they reconnected after 46 years.

Dr. Blythe is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and received her doctorate at the University of South Carolina in Twentieth Century American Literature with special studies in Southern women writers. She has been an educator, scholar, writer, conference director, and film and radio producer. She has just finished writing her first novel, and has an essay entitled "Fly fishing and the Art of a Woman's Healing" coming out next fall in Hub City's anthology *Outdoors in the UpCountry*

A charter member of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Dr. Blythe is also a member of the South Carolina Historical Society, the South Caroliniana Society, National Society for the Colonial Dames of America, and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Please join us for an interesting program and a chance to network with other genealogists!

Greenville Chapter, SCGS **Offices and Board Members**

President: Vice President: Recording Secretary: Susan P. Finlay Treasurer: State Representative: Pat Frieler

Patricia Swygert Sue Webb Dot Hawkins

Member at Large: Immediate Past Co-Presidents:

Corresponding Secretary: Archivist: Parliamentarian:

Bob Frieler Jane W. Chandler Susan P. Finlay

Carol Leake Herb Clark

January Meeting

The meeting of the Greenville Chapter, S.C. Genealogical Society was called to order by the President, Patsy Swygert, at 7:20 P.M. Patsy welcomed all members and guests and recognized our guests. Carolyn Alville and Roger Burns.

Officers' reports:

President – Patsy thanked the Lees for hosting our annual Christmas party at their home last month.

Vice-President – Sue Webb, stated that Anne Blythe from the Upcountry History Museum would be our February speaker.

Parliamentarian - Herb Clark informed us that the post office's bulk mailing unit will be moved to Fairforest Way.

Archivist – Carol Leake has moved all of the chapter archives to her house and is working on an index for the materials. Individuals can look at the archives by contacting Carol at 864-350-08332 (c).

Hazel Townsend informed the group that this year's Federation of Genealogical Societies conference will be in Knoxville either in the late summer or early autumn.

Patsy related to the group that all links to individual chapter newsletters from each chapter's website have been disabled by the state president due to copyright issues. After discussion, Suzanne Case made a motion that Patsy contact the state president to put the links for our newsletter back on the website with a disclaimer that our material is copyrighted. The motion was seconded by Herb Clark. After a voice vote, it was decided in favor of the motion.

The next chapter meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. February 4, 2010. The next board meeting will be at 5:45 February 4, 2010.

The meeting ended at 7:45 P.M.

CASE'S CORNER

BRANCHING OUT INTO ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: Military Records, Part 1

By Suzanne Case

This month we'll begin to examine military records to see how they can be used to locate information on those elusive ancestors. In the process, we'll also investigate sources for locating these records. Fortunately for the genealogical researcher, most wars generated a mountain of papers and records, many of them available in various locations and formats and accessible to most researchers. Because there is so much information available on U.S. military actions, we'll examine the records in multiple parts beginning with the records of the American Revolution.

The American Revolution produced a wealth of invaluable information on our early ancestors. From service records to pension and land grant applications, participants in this war are frequently well documented. The individual **service records** will generally give information about where the soldier mustered in, the commanding officer's name, battles fought, etc. (Note: women who were nurses, camp cooks, etc. may also show up in these records). Check with your **local library**, **state archives** and/or **state historical society**, as well as the **National Archives** for Revolutionary War service records. Records can be ordered from the National Archives through their website, which has instructions on to how to order the copies. Check it out at: <u>www.nara.gov</u>. In Greenville, the **S.C. Room at the Hughes Main Library** has service records on microfilm of several of the South Carolina regiments. If you're not sure which unit your ancestor served in, check an index such as Virgil White's *Index to Revolutionary War Service Records* available in the South Carolina Room.

In addition to the service records, the *Pension and Bounty Land Grant Warrant Applications* can give an amazing amount of additional information and are of tremendous value if the soldier or widow applied for one. **Bounty land grants**, in which soldiers were offered land in return for their service, were promised an as an inducement to soldiers to persuade them to fight for the patriot cause. Many states offered bounty land grants within their own borders. In some cases, however, grants were given in relatively unsettled parts of the state that may have later broken off to form another state. In other cases, grants were given in nearby territories that were outside the borders of the state. For instance, North Carolina gave grants in the western part of that state, in what later became Tennessee. Virginia gave grants in what became Ohio. A check of records in multiple states might then be in order.

Pensions were issued by the federal government, as well as by many states, to former soldiers or their widows who could offer proof of service. It is precisely because the individual had to show proof that one can frequently find so much valuable information. The information can include such things as commanding officers names, where the individual mustered in, the battles fought, spouse's and children's names, date and place of marriage, residence of applicant when the application was made, when the applicant moved to that location, etc. This is all confirmed by such information as records from the state where the individual served, letters and statements from witnesses, Bible records, etc.

The *Pension and Bounty Land Grant Warrant Applications* can be searched in several ways through the S.C. Room at the Main Library. The **non-selected records** which contain all paperwork relating to an individual's application (even letter requests for information on the individual as late as the 1930's) are available on microfilm. The **selected records**, which contain those records deemed to be the most crucial to the application, are available online in the *Heritagequest* database. This database is offered free-of-charge for all library cardholders through the library's website: <u>www.greenvillelibrary.org</u> Many other public libraries offer this database to their cardholders as well.

In addition, *Footnote* database, also available at the Greenville County Library, has a number of Revolutionary War rolls and service records online. (This database can only be searched at a library location). Records of soldiers who were in the Continental Army or state units that served with the Continental Army are available on *Ancestry.com* (for an individual subscription fee) or on *Ancestry LE*, which is available at any Greenville County Library System location. *Ancestry* also has a number of other databases containing Revolutionary War records as well.

One of the most helpful sources of information to check when researching your patriot ancestor is the **Daughters** of the American Revolution website at: <u>www.dar.org</u> At the website homepage, click on 'DAR Library', and then select 'Online Research'. This will enable you to search the database for your ancestor's name. However, according to the website, be aware that finding your ancestor's name listed does not constitute sufficient proof of descendancy. While you're on the website, you might also want to check out the online catalog and the link for search services.

Finally, the National Archives Southeast Region located outside of Atlanta has a number of American Revolutionary War records in its possession. You can search their website at: archives.gov/southeast/finding-aids/microfilm/military.html# for a list of their available military microfilms.

One of the most important informational resources for South Carolina veterans of the American Revolution is the **South Carolina Dept. of Archives and History**. The South Carolina State Archives has recently added a searchable catalog to their website at the following address: <u>rediscov.sc.gov/scar</u>. Type "Revolutionary War" or "American Revolution" (be sure to use quotation marks) in the keyword search selection tool to reveal Revolutionary War records in their collection.

Every state has its own unique set of records pertaining to the Revolution and South Carolina is no exception. One such document was the **stub indent**, which was issued to individuals who had provided goods and services during the war. The indent was issued to the individual, while the state held onto the matching stub. The indent was to be redeemed at a later date when the state could afford to pay. These stub indents are listed in multiple volumes (many available in the S.C. Room) and the originals are held at the state archives. Another useful set of documents is called the *Audited Accounts*. These accounts provide more detailed information on the types of goods and services provided and are available in the S.C. Room (on microfilm) and at the state archives.

Finally, for one of the most useful sources of information on South Carolina patriots, check out Bobby Moss's *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution*. This is the most complete listing of South Carolina patriots currently available. It lists the individual patriots with the source/s given, enabling you to check for further information. For many entries, a brief abstract of the individual's service is also given. This book is available in the S.C. Room, as well as at many other locations.

If you're still not having much luck, try the eclectic listing of websites pertaining to genealogical military information on *Cyndislist* at: <u>www.cyndislist.com</u>. Select 'm' for military, then select 'military resources worldwide' for links to additional useful sites. Of course, in addition to Cyndislist, there is a very wide range of other sources on Internet as well. Just be cautious as many Internet sources may have inaccuracies.

For those who are doing research on a loyalist ancestor, there are many sources that can help. Ancestry.com (or Ancestry LE in the public library) has a number of loyalist databases and there are a number of books on loyalists in the Revolution. Some of these book titles include: American Loyalist Claims by Peter Coldham, The New Loyalist Index by Paul Bunnell, Roster of the Loyalists in the Battle of King's Mountain by Bobby Moss and South Carolina Loyalists in the American Revolution by Robert Lambert. These titles are all available in the South Carolina Room at the Hughes Main Library.

As you can see, there are a myriad of resources available to help you in researching the Revolutionary War military service of your early ancestor. These records can help you flesh out an important segment of your ancestor's life and/or show an invaluable family link. Dive in and see what gems you can find!

Next month, we'll look at military records of the colonial era, as well as the wars that took place between the American Revolution and the Civil War. Until then, Happy Hunting!!

Greenville County Cemeteries

Please contact Gary Flynn at <u>ke8fd@bellsouth.net</u> if you can be of help to locate any of these cemeteries.

Cemetery	GPS	Мар	Notes
Rock Springs Baptist	n35 11.650 , w82 16.133	<u>M*</u>	M* = Estimated GPS location, Bill Floyd knows cemetery location
Rosamond-Westfield Family	n34 43.124 , w82 26.644	<u>M*</u>	M* = Estimated GPS location
Ross Family	Need To Estimate GPS	_	
Russ Family	Need To Estimate GPS	-	
Sheldon Family	n35 00.322 , w82 25.574	<u>M*</u>	M* = Estimated GPS location
Shockley Family #2	Need To Estimate GPS	-	
Slater Hill Baptist	Need To Estimate GPS	-	Aka Slater Church of God ?
Smith Family, Benjamin	Need To Estimate GPS	-	
Smith Family, Nancy	Need To Estimate GPS	_	
Smith Family, William	n34 51.665 , w82 14.712	<u>M*</u>	M* = Estimated GPS location
Smith-Vaughan Family	Need To Estimate GPS	-	
Spillars Family	Need To Estimate GPS	-	Iron Gate, C.C. Simpsonville
Stokes Family, Hugh	Need To Estimate GPS		
Stokes Family, John	n34 49.044 , w82 20.153	<u>M*</u>	M* = Estimated GPS location
Thompson Family	Need To Estimate GPS	_	· · · ·

Chapter News

Query

Sue Webb is researching the family of Andrew T. White of Greene Co. Al. He was the son of William White of Abbeville, SC. Please contact Sue if you have information on this family at 864-877-0377 or please write to her at 306 Johnson Rd, Greer, SC 29651.

Genealogical Conference

The Federation of Genealogical Societies 2010 will hold it's annual conference in Knoxville, TN. August 18-21, 2010. For more information please visit <u>http://www.fgs.org/2010conference/index.php</u>.

Chapter Publications

Please share your family histories, anecdotes, queries, or stories you have written on family history for publication in the chapter newsletter and Journal. Email <u>Susan17177@aol.com</u>

The Journal editor position is open in our chapter. If you'd like to try your hand at editing the material that members send for publication, please contact Patsy Swygert at <u>ptswygert@yahoo.com</u>.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. One. 1977, reprint 2007, 485 p., indexed. Includes 105 cemeteries. \$40.00 plus \$3.75 s. & h.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Two. 1979, reprint 2003, 489 p., indexed. Includes 77 cemeteries. \$40.00 plus \$3.75 s. & h.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Three. 1980, reprint 2007, 351 p., indexed. Includes Springwood Cemetery and Nazareth Presbyterian Cemetery. \$40.00 plus \$3.75 s. & h.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Four. 1982, 3rd reprint 2007, 313 p., 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 Graceland Cemetery (West) and Beth Israel Cemetery. \$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.

Greenville County, S.C., Cemetery Survey, Vol. Seven. 2007, 404 p., indexed. Includes 55 cemeteries. \$40.00 plus \$3.50 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, 81/2" x 11".

Qty.	Title	Amount	S & H.
	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol One		
	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Two		<u> </u>
	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Three		
	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Four		
	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Five	**	
<u></u>	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Six		
	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Seven		
	Mackey Mortuary Death Records	<u>.</u>	
	Abstracts Newsp. Concerning Black People		
	1790 Census Index and 1800 Census		
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February Meeting

February 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. First Christian Church - 704 Edwards Road Speaker: Dr. Anne Blythe of the Upcountry **History Museum**

Bring a Friend!!