



# Greenville Chapter

of the  
*South Carolina Genealogical Society*

P.O. Box 16236  
Greenville, SC 29606  
[www.greenville.scgen.org](http://www.greenville.scgen.org)

Volume XXXIX, Number 7, October, 2013

## Greenville Chapter, SCGC Officers and Board Members

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### Mission Statement

"The objective of the Greenville Chapter, South Carolina Genealogical Society, shall be to raise the standard of genealogical research through education programs and workshops, publication of genealogical data, promotion of the collection of records, the preservation of records, publication of newsletters and journals and to stimulate a general interest in genealogy. Through its member of the State Society Board of Directors, the Chapter shall clear all major projects with the appropriate State Committee or Officer in order to avoid duplication of effort."

*From: Greenville Chapter, South Carolina Genealogical Society By-Laws*

SCGC-GC Newsletter Editorial Policy: Submissions by members are encouraged and will be used as space permits. Editor reserves the right to edit articles, files, or queries prior to publication. Neither SCGS-GC nor the editor assumes any responsibility for errors on the part of the contributor. Once published, material contained in this publication becomes part of the public domain and may be quoted if credit is given for the source.

## President's Message

**The October meeting will be at The Cascades on Verde Blvd. on October 20, 2013.**

Directions and a map are on page 4.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the October meeting. The newsletter snafu last month was out of my control. I hope this one makes it in time.

Since we did not have a large turnout (8 people) last month, I think it would be good to have everyone bring family info for a "Show and Tell - Part Deux". Basically, there will be 2 programs this month. So, re-gather all your research and plan to put it on display. Bring notebooks, charts, handouts or even a slide show of family pictures. Or, a slide show/handouts of doing genealogy research. I know there will be some folks who are looking for info that you may have that may help them through that "brick wall".

Sue Webb is chair of the nomination committee. Sue will be presenting a slate of officers to be voted on in November. Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

I've included "Part 6" of Suzanne Case's script she used for the Springwood Cemetery tour. Please remember to give Suzanne credit if you use any of it. There is at least one more section to share. Thanks Suzanne!

Don't forget to go to the SC Genealogy web site at: <http://www.scgen.org/> to participate in the Surname Project. Go to "Current Projects"; then go to "Surname Form" to fill out the form on line. Or, you may download the form, print it, and then mail it. I've also included a copy in this month's newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Just remember that this is YOUR chapter and newsletter. Please send in articles, stories, charts, trivia, history or anything related to you (no pun intended) or genealogy. Also bring in ideas for programs and projects. And by all means, if you have been on projects and committees, please let me or one of the officers know so we can better organize ourselves. I'll try not to put you in charge!!!

**Don't forget to visit the Greenville Chapter's website at:**  
**<http://www.greenville.scgen.org>**

### **Genealogy Terms Explained**

by Dee Gibson-Roles  
OBCGS newsletter  
<http://www.obcgs.com/>

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### **Greenville County Message Board**

<http://boards.rootsweb.com/localities.northam.usa.states.southcarolina.counties/mb.ashx>

### **Southernese**

**Covered Up** - Too Busy. "I'm just covered up at the office this week!"  
**Critter** - Animal. "That critter's howling kept me up half the night!"  
**Cut on/Cut off** - Turn on/turn off. "Cut off the lights when you leave the room."  
**Dinner** - Lunch. "I'll be back from dinner around 1 pm."  
**Drink** - Soda. "Co-Cola is my favorite drink."  
**Fetch** - Go, get and bring back. "Fetch some moo juice at the grocery store after work."  
**Fixin'** - Getting ready. "I'm fixin' to go fishing."  
**Heap** - A lot. "You're in a heap of trouble young man!"  
**'Hire Yew?** - How Are You? "I'm fine, Hire Yew?"  
**Kin to** - Related. "She's kin to my aunt Betty Jo."

# Minutes



## September, 2013 Minutes

The September meeting of the SCGS met at the Cascades on September 15, 2013. Teresa Morelli came as a visitor. There were eight (8) people in attendance for the "Show and Tell" meeting. Four tables of ancestry displays were seen and discussed.

The next meeting will be October 29, 2013 at the Cascades.

Submitted by **Ellen Rodgers**, Secretary

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Don't forget you can post your queries on the Greenville Chapter of the Genealogical Society FACEBOOK page.

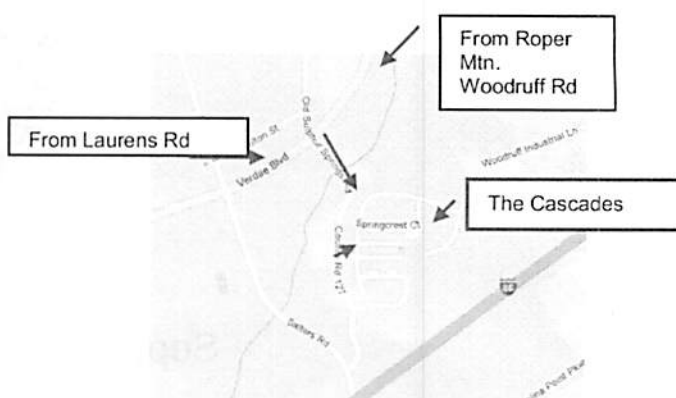
Follow the Greenville Chapter of the Genealogical Society on FACEBOOK at:  
[http://www.facebook.com/GreenvilleGenealogicalSociety?bookmark\\_t=page](http://www.facebook.com/GreenvilleGenealogicalSociety?bookmark_t=page)

The September meeting will be Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013 at 3:00pm at The Cascades.

There should be no problem getting in the gate Sunday. It will probably be open. If not, just tell the person who answers the speaker that you are there for the Genealogy meeting.

After going through the gate, turn immediately left onto Creekridge Rd, then turn right onto Spring Crest Court this will dead end in a parking area. We enter the middle, two-story building at ground level on the right of the building. The Large Meeting room is to the left when you enter.

GPS" 34°49'30.89"N; 82°18'56.64"W



### You know you are a Genealogy addict when....

- .... You brake for libraries.
- .... You hyperventilate at the sight of an old cemetery.
- .... You would rather browse in a cemetery than a shopping mall.
- .... You would rather read census schedules than a good book.
- .... Eenrum, Baflo and Groningen are household names, but you can't remember what to call the dog.
- .... You store your clothes under the bed, because your closet is full of books and papers.
- .... All your correspondence begins with "Dear Cousin".
- .... You have traced all of your ancestral lines back to Adam and Eve; all documented and still don't want to quit.
- .... Your most important social life is meeting people who you run into while searching a family line.

### The Greenville News 8/30/2013 Family Circus



"You better be quiet or Granddad will leave you out of the family history he's writing."

**South Carolina Genealogical Society, Inc.**  
**Surname Directory Information**

This form may be submitted online at [www.scgen.org](http://www.scgen.org) or by mailing the completed form to SCGS Surname Directory, 841 Garden Dale Drive, Columbia, SC 29210.

Each member is entitled to submit 10 surnames. Should more than ten (10) surnames per member be submitted, only the first ten (10) will be included in the directory.

If the surname being researched is from a state other than South Carolina, please indicate the state.

Please return prior to the **December 31, 2013** deadline.

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

Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname	S. C. County	or	State
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Submission of this form authorizes the South Carolina Genealogical Society, Inc. to publish the above information in its upcoming Surname Directory.

Submit to [scgssurnamedirectory@gmail.com](mailto:scgssurnamedirectory@gmail.com) as an attachment or print and mail to SCGS Surname Directory, 841 Garden Dale Dr., Columbia, SC 29210.

## SPRINGWOOD CEMETERY TOUR- 2012

by Suzanne Case

(Part 6)

### Section H

**H9. Frederick Symmes** - We have now arrived in Section H to learn about more early and, in some cases, forgotten, contributors to Greenville's history and how their contributions continue to impact Greenville today.

Our first stop is at the grave of Frederick Symmes. Mr. Symmes was a lifelong resident of Greenville. In fact, I don't know if you've been keeping track, but all of the folks we've talked about so far have moved to Greenville from other areas. The closest we've had to residents so far are the Woodside brothers who were raised in the country in southern Greenville County.

Mr. Symmes was born at just the right time to come of age during Greenville's textile heyday. An intelligent and enterprising young man in 1910, at the ripe old age of 31, he started the company, Nuckasee Manufacturing in the Huguenot Mill Building on Broad St. The building is still there and is located just below the Peace Center. The company manufactured men's athletic underwear, muscle shirts and the old long underwear referred to as the Union Suit.

Mr. Symmes sold Nuckasee Manufacturing in 1929 but continued to remain very involved in textile manufacturing for most of his life. He held various officer positions in several other textile manufacturing plants, including Union-Buffalo Mills, Piedmont Plush Mills (which he helped to organize) and Camperdown Mills. There are still many people in Greenville today who worked at the old Camperdown Mill on the banks of the Reedy River.

Mr. Symmes never married and it was often said that he had no hobbies. However, from the legacy he left Greenville, it would appear that he actually did have a hobby; the betterment of Greenville.

Among his many contributions was the founding of the Community Chest which was the forerunner of today's United Way. So now, when you think of the United Way campaign which goes on every year at this time, you have Fred Symmes to thank. And of course, I think most of us are familiar with the *Shriner's Hospital for Children*. Well, again, we have Mr. Symmes to thank for that. Along with several other influential community leaders, he raised \$60,000 for the Shrine Foundation which founded the Shriner's Hospital.

His pet projects however, were the establishment of a water system for Greenville and the establishment of a public library. While Mr. Symmes was a member of the Public Works Commission, expansion lines were established from Table Rock Reservoir to Greenville and work was begun on the North Saluda Reservoir. Greenville is known for having some of the best drinking water in the country and this is largely due to the work and foresight of Mr. Symmes.

An avid reader, probably his proudest achievement was his work to establish a public library in Greenville. The library opened in 1922 with his appointment to the Board of Trustees in 1926. He became board chair in 1927 and continued in that post for thirty years until his death in 1957.

Now, many of you may have been to a sunrise service, a concert or a wedding at the beautiful spot in Camp Greenville in northern Greenville County known as Pretty Place. How many of you know that the full name of the chapel is the Fred W. Symmes Chapel in honor of its benefactor? Once again, another special contribution from Mr. Symmes.

Mr. Symmes' contributions to this community were many and varied and continue to live on today through the Symmes Foundation. At his request, the Symmes Foundation was to be set up with the proceeds from his enormous estate upon his death. The Symmes Foundation has supported and continues to support numerous projects of the Greenville County Library System to this day. Grants from the Symmes Foundation have also gone towards projects at Furman, the Peace Center, the Phillis Wheatley Center and some of the downtown revitalization projects to name just a few.

This quiet, thoughtful, somewhat shy and unostentatious man may have passed from the memory of many Greenvillians, but his gifts, his foresight and his legacies still live on in our city.

Lets move on now to Alester Furman, Sr.

**H10. Alester Garden Furman, Sr.** - We all know the Furman name and its legacy from Furman University, but in addition to the university, each generation of the Furman family has contributed in many other varied ways to the growth and prosperity of Greenville. Today, we're learning about the contributions of Alester Furman, Sr. Alester, Sr. was the grandson of James Clement Furman, the man who transformed Furman from the Furman Theological Institution to a full-fledged college and moved it to Greenville.

Alester was the son of James's son, Charles, a college professor. As an adult, Alester took a different route away from the academic world, instead entering the world of business. His business enterprises were many and varied beginning with the insurance firm he co-founded in 1888. Remarkably, he was only twenty-one at the time. It's difficult to imagine many twenty-one year olds starting a successful business like an insurance agency, so it's clear that Mr. Furman had a remarkable business sense from a very young age.

From there, he added a real estate business and a brokerage business selling stocks and bonds. These varied businesses were eventually grouped together under the umbrella known as the Alester G. Furman Company.

His success in business made him a respected and powerful influence in the growth of Greenville. For instance, Mr. Furman was at the forefront of the group of business leaders who convinced the army to locate several military camps in this county over the years; Camp Wetherill during the Spanish-American War, Camp Sevier during WWI and Greenville Army Air Base (which later became Donaldson Center) in WWII.

After the Spanish-American War ended, the camp, which was located in the area of present-day Earle St. between the Buncombe Rd. and Wade Hampton Blvd., was divided into lots by Mr. Furman's company. The lots were sold at auction with Mr. Furman, himself, leading a brass band up to the lots on the day of the sale. It was quite an event! Mr. Furman sold \$15,000 worth of lots in one day and thus, what is today known as the Earle St. Historic District was born.

We learned earlier about the building of the Poinsett Hotel and the involvement of the Woodsides in getting it built in the 1920's. Well, before the Poinsett Hotel, Greenville's luxury hotel was the Ottaray Hotel built on the site of the present-day Hyatt Hotel. Mr. Furman and other Greenville businessmen saw the increasing need for premier lodgings with the boom of Greenville's textile industry and the accompanying influx of executives and businesspeople to the area. Through their efforts, the luxurious Ottaray Hotel was built and opened in 1909. Among the numerous amenities offered by the hotel were telephones in every room - not bad for 1909.

Among his many other accomplishments, Mr. Furman established the Carolina Power Co. From the power generated by the building of a dam on Saluda Lake, this company was able to bring electric power to Greenville as early as 1905. Mr. Furman later sold Carolina Power to the company that eventually became Duke Power.

We don't have enough time to list all of Mr. Furman's accomplishments, but suffice it to say, they are many. Mr. Furman did not retire until 1944, by which time, he was in his '70's and still working a 40 hr. week.

In Frank Barnes' book, The Greenville Story, Mr. Barnes states that he can't "think of anyone's life as being so worthy of admiration as that of Alester G. Furman." He further states that "Mr. Furman comes nearer being the ideal citizen any community would be proud of." High praise for a man whose accomplishments and contributions to our city were so great.

End Part 5

*The Greenville News 9/1/2013*



## 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. (Temporarily Unavailable)**  
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".

Qty.	Title	Amount	S & H.
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol One	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Two	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Three	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Four	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Five	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Six	_____	_____
_____	Greenville, S.C. Cemetery Records, Vol Seven	_____	_____
_____	Mackey Mortuary Death Records	_____	_____
_____	Abstracts.. Newsp. Concerning Black People	_____	_____
_____	1790 Census Index and 1800 Census	_____	_____
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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_



## 2013 Memberships Are Now Being Accepted

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please use this form to send your 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission to publish this information?** (Circle all that apply):

Publish all of the above - Omit Address - Omit Phone No. - Omit E-mail Address

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**New:** \_\_\_\_ **Renewal:** \_\_\_\_ (check one)

**Membership Type (circle one)**

(If pre-paying, please indicate which years)

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

**Family:** ----- \$ 26.00

(you and one other)

You receive one copy of the chapter publications and the State's Carolina Herald for two members at the same address.

**Associate:** ----- \$ 15.00

(must be a primary member of another 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.

Primary S. C. chapter name \_\_\_\_\_ SCGS# \_\_\_\_\_

**Surnames of families you are researching:** \_\_\_\_\_

Permission to publish these Surnames? (Circle one): Yes No \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial)

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S.C. Genealogical Society  
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## **October Meeting**

***“Show and Tell” – “Part Two”***

October 20, 2013  
3:00-5:00 p.m.

**The Cascades**  
**Verde Blvd., Greenville, SC**  
**Bring a Friend!**