



Greenville Chapter

of the
South Carolina Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 16236
Greenville, SC 29606
www.greenville.scgen.org

Volume XXXIX, Number 8, November, 2013

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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 November meeting will be at The Cascades on Verde Blvd. on November 17, 2013.
 Directions and a map are on page 3.

Since we did not have a large turnout at the September meeting, I thought a "re-do" of "Show and Tell" in October would have been beneficial to the chapter. Again, not many in attendance.

Scott Withrow will be our speaker for November. He spoke to us in March on the migration of the Redbones (a mixed ethnic group) from South Carolina to the Southwest. Scott shared a lot of information with us.

Sue Webb, nominating committee chair, will be presenting a slate of officers for 2014-2016 at the November meeting and the chapter *must vote* in December. This is a month delay according to our by-laws. Nominations will also be taken from the floor. Be sure to contact the person being nominated before the November meeting.

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!

Please visit 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. Deadline is December 31, 2013.

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>

Minutes
Greenville Chapter



South Carolina
Genealogical Society

October, 2013 Minutes

The October meeting of the SCGS met at the Cascades on October 15, 2013. Tad called the meeting to order at 3:15pm. The October minutes were approved as published. Visitors were: Bitsy and Steve McHough and John Ice. Brenda gave a report on the state meeting in Columbia held October 19, 2013. She told us about the Chicora Society in Richland County that works to preserve cemeteries. Brenda also stated that other chapters are experiencing a decline in membership. Tad gave information about the Greenville County Message Board on RootsWeb and the Anderson County Genealogy Forum. The Surname Project is drawing to a close. Deadline is December 1, 2013. Tad also mentioned about the Genealogy Certification Program. John Ice shared his family history. Brenda Meyer and Tad Riddle had tables set up for their family histories. The November meeting will be at the Cascades on November 17, 2013 at 3:00 pm. Meeting was adjourned.

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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:

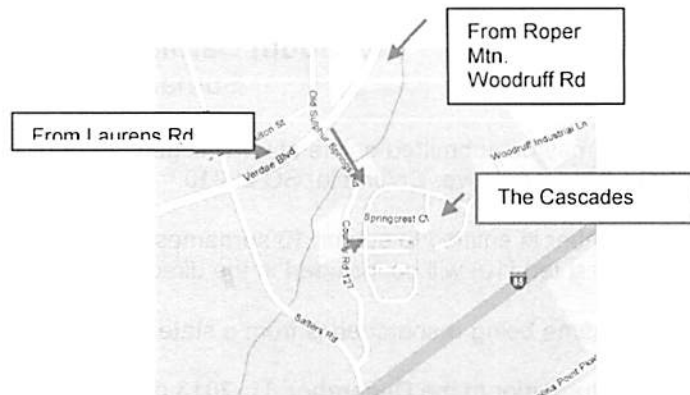
http://www.facebook.com/GreenvilleGenealogicalSociety?bookmark_t=page

The October meeting will be Sunday, Oct. 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 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 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 7)

Section D

D11. Heldman Family - We are now at our first plot in Section D, that of the Heldman family. As with many other citizens of Greenville, George Heldman's story is the story of an immigrant coming to America (in this case from Germany) and realizing the American Dream through perseverance and hard work. Arriving in the 1840's, Mr. Heldman, set up a saddle and harness making shop in the back of his home. He had purchased a large brick house on the corner of South Main and Broad Sts., currently the location of the Greenville News building, where he set up the shop in part of the home while living with his wife and daughter in the other part.

A saddle and/or harness made by Mr. Heldman was considered to be quite a fine thing, as many people considered him to be the best craftsman of such goods in all of Greenville. His business was such a success that he was able to purchase considerable amounts of land around the county, including a farm and orchard on Paris Mt. He was also known for the beautiful garden he kept on the south side of his home. It was said the he grew some of the most beautiful flowers in Greenville.

His fortune also enabled him to purchase the monument you see here. The base is made of granite and the shaft is marble. Mr. Heldman reportedly paid \$1,000 for it when he purchased it the late-1880's. And you can only imagine how much the inscriptions must have cost. Obviously, he was a man who wanted to go out in style!

In Greenville lore, however, it is his daughter, Fannie, who is perhaps the better-known member of the family. You will note on the monument that she died on January 1, 1889. Fannie, the only daughter of George and his wife, Matilda, was by all accounts a lovely, modest young woman with a pleasing personality and an artistic bent.

Apparently, Mr. Heldman's business manager and attorney was quite taken with the lovely Fannie and asked Mr. Heldman for her hand in marriage. Mr. Heldman quickly gave his consent. It is at this point that the stories diverge and it gets a bit murky. Some stories say that Fanny had no desire to marry this man who was almost twice her age and became depressed over the thought of being forced to marry him. Other stories say she contracted a severe fever some months earlier and her mind had not been the same since.

At any rate, the marriage was postponed from October, 1888 to early January, 1889 in hopes that Fannie's mental state would improve. On January 1, 1889, being "quite out her mental equilibrium," to quote the Greenville Enterprise and Mountaineer newspaper, she slipped away from her parents and disappeared. A search party was engaged and her body was soon found in the Reedy River in the Ten Foot Hole where she had apparently drowned herself. The Ten Foot Hole is most likely in the area near present-day Linky Stone Park. The sad affair was written up in newspaper accounts as far away as New York City. We will probably never know the truth for certain, but we do know Fannie will always remain one of Greenville's most tragic stories.

Did anyone just hear a splash?

D12. Asbury Family - The next plot we'll visit in Section D belongs to the Asbury family. The Asbury's lived variously in Georgia and Alabama before moving to Greenville. In fact, in 1870, the family was living in Talladega, Alabama at a school for the deaf, dumb and blind where father, Reuben, was a teacher of the blind.

Somewhere along the way, however, Reuben's career plans must have morphed considerably, because in 1875, the Greenville City Council contracted with him to come to Greenville and operate the gas plant

which provided gas for the street lights. Quite a change from being a teacher to running a gas plant! So, for any teachers out there who are looking for a career change.....

In 1890, Reuben and his son, Abner, bought an electric generating plant from the city of Greenville. The plant was located on Broad St. and Reuben renamed it Asbury and Son. The next year, the company was renamed Greenville Gas, Electric Light and Power Company and the Asbury's began selling shares of stock.

The plant generated electricity to run the street lights in the city, unless there was a full moon, in which case the city was to operate by moonlight. That was all subject to change, however if some clouds should come scuttling across the moon. In the event that that should happen, the mayor would contact the chief of police who would contact Mr. Asbury to light all the lights within one hour. Talk about pressure! One wonders if the mayor stayed awake all night on full moon nights in the event that some stray clouds would roll across the moon.

Mr. Asbury and his son tended the gas works for a number of years and as such, were called upon for assistance by all the citizens of Greenville who subscribed to the gas service. One day on a service call, Reuben, who apparently had a quite substantial beard, was checking on a gas heater, when he lit a match, igniting fumes with a small explosion. Miraculously, Reuben was unharmed, but the same could not be said of his beard, which alas, vanished in an instant giving his face a brand new clean-shaven appearance.

You will note the graves of other Asbury family members as well. Daughter, Emily, was an award-winning teacher of much note in Greenville. She taught many, many of Greenville's most successful citizens in the late 1800's and early 1900's. She served as a principal in several grammar schools and lastly in her career taught history at Greenville High School. Photos of Miss Emmie show a stern demeanor with a hint of a knowing smile. The Greenville High Nautilus yearbook of 1916-17 provides descriptions of the various faculty members. Miss Emmie's description has her age described as "prehistoric," her was most noted trait was "self control" and her occupation was "killing time." Her favorite saying was "steady," her nickname was "Bones" and her horror was "Cobwebs (head and house)."

Sadly, Miss Asbury was struck by a car in 1925 while crossing the street to attend church at the First Baptist Church. She never completely recovered and she remained somewhat of an invalid in declining health until her death in 1930. Ironically, her brother William, with whom she and her sister, Mary, lived was a detective who worked with insurance companies investigating automobile accidents.

The cause of death given for both Emmie and Mary was pellagra. Pellagra was a disease of niacin deficiency, especially prevalent in the South in the early 1900's. It was usually seen in lower-income citizens who could not afford a varied diet and it affected the skin and nervous system. Adding niacin to diets beginning in the 1940's made the disease all but disappear. The mystery is why two educated sisters from a prosperous family would both die of a disease commonly associated with poverty and malnutrition. Perhaps, Emmie's injuries left her unable to eat normally. As far as Mary is concerned, we're not quite sure... It's a mystery.

D13. Martin Ansel - We're now at our last stop in Section D - Martin Ansel.

Martin Ansel was the son of German immigrants who lived briefly in Philadelphia before settling in Charleston where Martin was born in 1850. Several years later, in the wake of a yellow fever epidemic, the family moved to Walhalla where a number of other German immigrants were living.

Young Martin, with an interest in the field of law, read and studied law under an already established attorney, since he could not afford to attend college and law school. He was admitted to the bar in 1870 at the ripe old age of twenty. Mr. Ansel set up practice, initially, in Franklin, NC but moved to Greenville in 1876 and set up practice here. His skill at the practice of law was so successful that he was named Greenville City Attorney in 1880, just four short years after arriving here,

He was an avid supporter of Wade Hampton in his 1876 bid for governor and after this involvement in state politics, Mr. Ansel threw his own hat in the ring to run for the SC House of Representatives in 1884, an election he won. He was reelected in 1886. His stint in the SC House of Representatives was followed by a stint as solicitor of the 8th Judicial Circuit, a position he held from 1888-1901.

He left the position of solicitor in 1901 and concentrated on his successful law practice for a time. In 1902, he unsuccessfully ran for governor, but running again in 1906, this time he won on a platform of doing away with the hated State Dispensary Law. The State Dispensary Law had been rammed through by Governor "Pitchfork" Ben Tillman in 1893 and under this law, only the state could sell liquor at designated dispensaries. All sale proceeds would go back to the state. The law was pretty much as big a disaster as Prohibition and was flouted in any number of corrupt ways. Mr. Ansel was in favor of allowing the counties to vote individually on whether to remain wet or dry. When Governor Ansel went in the governor's mansion, dispensaries pretty much went out. By February, 1907, they had closed in all but six counties. Pretty fast work!

Governor Ansel was considered a progressive governor in the Progressive Era. Among his many accomplishments, he made it a point to visit as many public schools across the state as he possibly could. He actually managed to visit almost all of them. As a big supporter of public education, he advocated for the building of 150 new high schools all across the state. A popular governor, he was reelected in 1908.

After serving as governor, he returned to Greenville where he resumed his successful law practice and remained active in Democratic politics all the way from the local to the national level. A big supporter of Woodrow Wilson, he actively campaigned for him across the country in both of his presidential campaigns.

Lastly in his career, Mr. Ansel was elected in 1920 to be a judge in the newly established Greenville County Court. He held this position until 1934 when he retired in his '80's.

He led a life of high accomplishment in so many areas: from legal and judicial to political; from religious, with his involvement with First Presbyterian Church, to civic and community, including helping to establish Greenville Hospital System. Not bad for a gentleman who was not even able to attend college or law school because his parents didn't have enough money to send him.

We'll now begin to walk back towards the entrance of Springwood. Along the way, we'll make a couple of short stops and meet a few other former Greenville citizens.

End Part 7

Conclusion will be in December newsletter

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, 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. (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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STREET/P.O. BOX _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

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2014 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)

Greenville Chapter
S.C. Genealogical Society
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November Meeting

Speaker: Scott Withrow

November 17, 2013

3:00-5:00 p.m.

**The Cascades
Verde Blvd., Greenville, SC**

Bring a Friend!