



Greenville Chapter

of the

South Carolina Genealogical Society

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

Volume XL, Number 11 December 2021

Greenville Chapter, South Carolina Genealogical Society By-Laws 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.”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Officers	2
Message from Presidents	2
December Meeting	3
November Meeting Recap	4
Old Christmas	5-6
Family Christmas 100 Years ago	7-8
German Pickle Ornament	9-10
History Comes Alive - Chautauqua	11
Family Tree Maker Webinar	12
Roots Tech	13
Publications for Sale	14
Membership Application	15
Upcoming Events	16

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. Articles and comments may be sent to: Barbara Clark at bc7621gen@att.net

Greenville Chapter, SCGC Officers and Board Members

Co President	Brenda Meyer	bbmeyer76@gmail.com	(864) 350-0832
Co President	Vanessa Cole	vanessalcole58@gmail.com	(757) 869-7449
Treasurer	Andrea Riddle	nctm@aol.com	(864) 525-5139
Newsletter Editor	Barbara Clark	bc7621gen@att.net	(864) 417-0811
Communications Director	Ann E Friddle-Boone	ancestorkb@gmail.com	864-288-4320

Just remember that this is YOUR chapter and newsletter. Please send in articles, stories, charts, trivia, history or anything related to you or genealogy (no pun intended). 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.

Message from the Presidents

We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends!

It's now time for the excitement of Christmas, when we can gather our families and friends again.

One of the things that has become a tradition of the Meyer-Craddock family is to attend a candlelight worship service at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Christmas Eve. This gives us an opportunity to reflect on the real reason for the holiday and the love God has shown us by the gift of his son.

Vanessa and I look forward to seeing you at our meeting this month as we share some of our favorite Christmas stories from our past.

Brenda

DECEMBER MEETING

Vanessa Cole

Our December meeting will be held on Sunday December 19th at 3 pm at Rolling Green Village. We will be having a Christmas gathering of food, friendship and caroling. Vanessa will be sharing the stories behind some of our favorite Christmas songs. Please plan to join us!

Please bring a snack/appetizer to share and if you have any Christmas photos, stories, or special ornaments, please consider bringing and/or sharing those as well. We all have unique family stories to preserve and there is no better way than telling your stories to others who are like-minded.

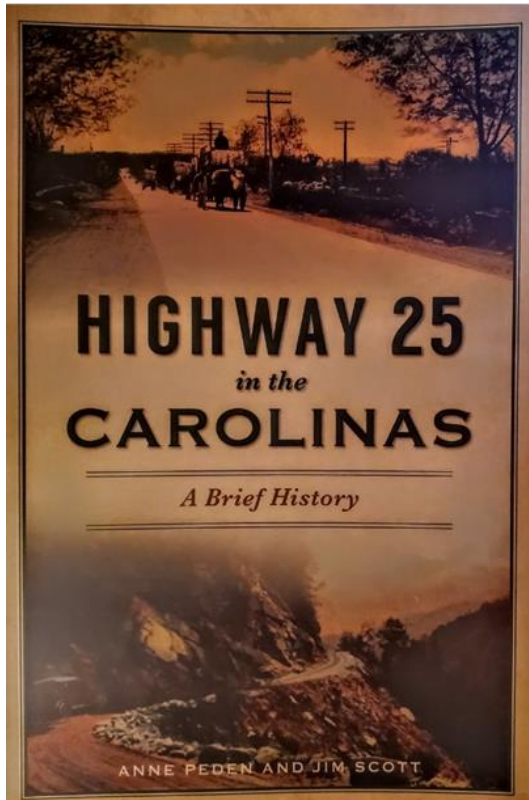
See you on the 19th!



NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP

Vanessa Cole

We were very fortunate to have author Anne Peden speak to us about her book (Jim Scott, co-author) *Highway 25 in the Carolinas*.



Anne shared the massive undertaking of the restoration of *Cedarhurst*, the oldest brick structure in Greenville County built by Joseph McCullough in 1812.

The Fork Shoals Historical Society is raising funds to restore this historic home built along the old drover's road and that is where the book enters the picture. The total cost to preserve this piece of history is over \$200,000. If you are interested in supporting the preservation by purchasing a copy of the book, please do so by contacting either the **Fork Shoals Historical Society or Highway 25 in the Carolinas on Facebook**. Ordering through them directly will add \$10 to the restoration fund (ordering any other way only brings FSHS \$2/book).

You can read more about this historic home here:

- <https://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/2020/12/05/mcculloughs-cedarhurst-share-storied-places-greenville-history-200-year-old-home-augusta-road/6346388002/>
- <https://sentinelinternet.com/2019/12/20/oldest-brick-structure-in-greenville-co-to-be-saved/>
- <https://livingupstategsc.com/fork-shoals-historical-society-working-to-save-greenville-countys-oldest-brick-structure/>

To order a copy of the book, contact:

- <https://www.facebook.com/Fork-Shoals-Historical-Society-513664668776134/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/Highway-25-in-the-Carolinas-109214097896762>

OLD CHRISTMAS

Vanessa Cole

The story of Old Christmas begins in ancient Rome with the calendar. In 46 BC, the Roman calendar based on the moon was reformed by Julius Caesar and the new calendar based on the sun would now contain 365 days and 12 months (the previous lunar calendar contained 355 days and 10 months). This calendar was an improvement but there was still about a quarter of a day more than the year, so an extra day was added to February every 4 years; leap year.



However, the Julian calendar was not completely accurate and was off by 11 minutes and 14 seconds every year. Because of this, every 128 years the Julian calendar was off by one day. In October 1582, Pope Gregory XIII had a solution to the problem and the calendar was reformed once more. With this new Gregorian calendar, he ordered that 10 days be removed from the calendar to get it and the seasons and holidays back on track. Furthermore, he ordered that century years that were not divisible by 400 not be considered as a leap year. In other words, 1600 would be a leap year; 1700 would not.

You may think that we all lived happily ever after with a calendar that actually worked. However...this new calendar, the Gregorian calendar, was the idea of the Pope. Catholic Europe adopted it immediately. Protestant Europe (basically Britain) on the other hand was not having anything to do with a *Catholic* calendar so they just kept using the Julian calendar until 1752.

Europe not only had 2 different calendars, but also 2 different New Year's Days. Although January 1 had been New Year's Day according to the Julian calendar, after the fall of the Roman Empire, New Year's Day in England had slowly slipped to March 25, which was the Christian holiday of Annunciation Day, 9 months before Christmas.

In 1752, 2 changes would take place with the calendar. First, New Year's Day would be changed from March 25 to January 1. The day after December 31, 1751 would now be January 1, 1752. The second change would be that Britain and the American colonies would officially adopt the Gregorian calendar. This meant that days would need to be removed so everyone went to bed on September 2nd and when they woke up the next day, it was September 14th. Many in Britain thought that the government was cheating them out of 11 days of their lives or that their lives were now shortened by 11 days. For dates from 1582 to 1752, double dating was now used in colonial records for dates that fell between the new New Year's Day in January and the old New Year's Day in March. For example: March 18, 1642/43.



As a genealogist, it's interesting to ponder that in American history in the year 1752, there were no births, deaths, or marriages to take place from September 3-13. The days simply did not exist.

Regarding the removal of these days, Benjamin Franklin said, "It is pleasant for an old man to be able to go to bed on September 2, and not have to get up until September 14."

Now, as for Old Christmas... Christmas falls on December 25, but if both calendars were compared with the 11 days that were removed for the conversion to the Gregorian calendar, December 25th on that Gregorian calendar would have been January 5th on the old Julian calendar. For whatever reason, people could not decide if the old Christmas Day would have been on the 5th or 6th of January and eventually, the 6th won out as Old Christmas. If you have not caught this yet, January 6th is 12 days after Christmas so now the "12 Days of Christmas" makes more sense.

Here in the colonies, the English and the Scots-Irish celebrated both New Christmas (December 25) and Old Christmas (January 6). December 25 was a more subdued quiet religious day and January 6 was the day for celebrating with much eating, drinking, and dancing with friends and family. Eventually Old Christmas began to fade away except with the Scots-Irish in the Appalachian Mountains and one other location, Rodanthe, NC, which is located on the Outer Banks on Hatteras Island.



A Family Christmas Celebrated 100 Years Ago

Hazel Townsend, November 2021

December 25, 1921, Home of Frank W. & Lula Sharp Rankin, White, Pine, TN



Back: Harriett "Hattie" Cutts Rankin (Mrs. Harry), Lula S. Rankin (almost hidden), Harry Rankin, Catherine Ruth "Kate" Franklin Rankin, Christopher Houston Rankin (white beard), Earle Rankin (?), Ralph Rankin. Front: Mary Anne Minnis "Mollie" Caldwell Sharp, Nellie Irene Sharp, Beulah Rankin, Marguerite (hidden) & Mary Broady, Lynn & Roy Rankin, W. Cecil Timblin, Robert Broady & Stanley Rankin, Ross Rankin (far right).

Yes, they lined up the Rankins 100 years ago for photos!!

Maybe that is why my Rankin relatives still line up for pictures today. This particular photo from 1921 was taken of the group that came to Christmas Dinner at the home of Frank Walter and Lula Sharp Rankin on what is now called CH Rankin Road outside of White Pine, Tennessee in Jefferson County. It is an interesting mix of family and friends.¹

As all we grandchildren remember, Grandma Lula Rankin loved having a good crowd. She knew how to cook a delicious meal that everyone enjoyed. She and Grandpa Rankin lived in a big 10-room farmhouse, and they made good use of it by inviting family and friends often. We remember many large family reunions with everyone gathered around the big dining room table laden with delicious food. There are lots of photographs recording these events over the years.

¹ "Chronological Photo History, Home of Frank Walter Rankin, White Pine, Tennessee" by Hazel Timblin Townsend, published in the November 2021, SCGC-GC Newsletter.

Christopher Houston (C.H.) Rankin and his wife Kate, parents of my grandfather Frank, had a history of big crowds at their home, which was about a mile down the road. C. H. and Kate were the parents of five children, including Frank and Harry in the photo. A grandson Ralph, also pictured here, lived in their house in later years. It is the only one of the two houses still standing after 100 years.

My great grandmother Mollie Caldwell Sharp, front row on left, was the mother of Lula Rankin and Nell Sharp, second on right in front row. Their farm was about a mile in the other direction, toward White Pine, on what is now the Fred Sharp Road. Their brother Fred farmed this land.

Frank and Lula Rankin had eight children: Helen, my mother Beulah, Ralph, Earle, Lynn, Ross, Roy, and toddler Stanley. Most are visible in the photo, ranging in age from almost four to 21.

Some non-family members are also pictured. The Rankins were members of Westminster Presbyterian Church in White Pine. Three of the pastor's children appear in this photo—Marguerite, Mary, and Robert Broady. Because the sisters were good friends with Beulah and Helen, they frequently visited the big Rankin house.

But how did Cecil Timblin get in this picture with all the Rankins in 1921? Cecil was from Butler County, Pennsylvania and attended Maryville College, Maryville, Tennessee, from 1920 to 1924. He did not make that long train trip home for the Christmas holiday. Instead, he went home with his good friend and college roommate, Robert Broady. Thus, he was also invited to the Christmas festivities at the Rankin home. This is where he met his future bride!

In June of 1930 my parents, Cecil Timblin and Beulah Rankin, were married in the Rankin home. Thus began their many years together. They followed in the tradition of entertaining many guests, never meeting a stranger. After they moved to Durham, North Carolina, in 1953 and into a larger house, they often invited family and friends for dinner. Beulah was a superb cook, just like her mother, and carried on the family tradition with ease.

Okay! Time to line up for our photos!!!

HOLIDAY HISTORY MYTH BUSTERS: THE GERMAN PICKLE ORNAMENT

Vanessa Cole

We're going to take a look at a holiday history myth: the German pickle ornament. Do you hang a pickle on your tree?

I have one on mine (pictured here) and grew up with this tradition. Naturally, I carried it on to the next generation with my children. Oh, how my boys loved this both at our home as well as when the whole family was together at my parents' house on Christmas Eve.



The story behind the ornament is supposed to be an old world, long-standing tradition in Germany that was brought to America by German immigrants. Legend has it that on Christmas Eve when St. Nicholas arrived, he would hang the pickle ornament deep within the Christmas tree. On Christmas morning before any gifts were opened, they would excitedly search for the pickle. The most observant child would find it knowing that St. Nicholas had left a special gift just for him or her. As the family watched the children, the adults were silently searching as well, as the first one to spot it would receive good luck all year. What a wonderful warm fuzzy tradition! However, there are a few problems with this story...

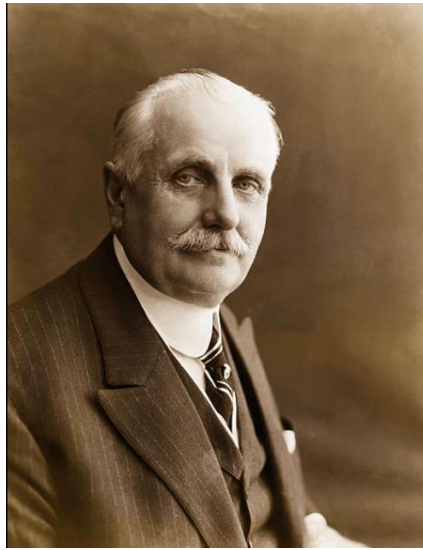
First, St. Nicholas does not visit German children on Christmas Eve. He comes on St. Nicholas Eve, December 5th. (December 6th is St. Nicholas Day). Second, German children do not open gifts on Christmas morning; that happens on Christmas Eve. Third, and most problematic, is that Germans had never heard of this "long-standing tradition" until the 1990s. Wait. What?

The tradition of decorating a Christmas tree didn't become common in America until the Civil War period. German settlers had been decorating trees, but it was isolated to that community. In 1848, Prince Albert, who was German, brought home a Christmas tree to the Royal Family. An engraving of them around the tree was published in London. That picture then made it to America and was published in Godey's Lady's Book the following year. Many American women were fascinated with Queen Victoria and her family (some things never change) and anything she did, American women had to do too. It was then that Christmas tree began to become popular here.

A small town in Germany had been known for its glass-blowing industry since 1597. In 1847, they began to produce glass ornaments in the shape of fruit and nuts. In the 1880s, F. W. Woolworth began selling Christmas ornaments, including some of the glass ones imported from Germany. These ornaments were in the shapes of fruits and vegetables. One can only assume that a pickle was probably not a big seller.

Retailers know that if they have a slow item, they need to do something to boost sales. Enter the made up pickle story! This “old world tradition” of the German Christmas pickle was spreading like wildfire and the pickles were flying off the shelves at Woolworth’s. And the rest is history.

Apparently you can find pickles hanging on trees in Germany today. They seemed to like this story of “their” tradition too!





UPCOMING EVENTS



MIRACLE MONGERS AND THEIR METHODS – THE AMERICAN MEDICINE SHOW

Presented by Larry Bounds (A Virtual event –
Online Zoom)

Tuesday December 14 at 7pm EST Free

DETAILS: MIRACLE MONGERS



JAMES ARMISTEAD LAFAYETTE, REVOLUTIONARY WAR DOUBLE AGENT

performed by Colonial Williamsburg's
Stephen Seals (A Virtual
performance – Online Zoom)

Thursday January 13 at 7pm EST Free

DETAILS: JAMES ARMISTEAD LAFAYETTE, DOUBLE AGENT

<http://historycomesalive.org/performances/events/>

You are invited to attend a free live webinar via Zoom on January 11, 2022, at 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM EST.



What's New in Family Tree Maker Q and A Discussion

Join us for a live discussion and Q and A session to answer all your questions about Family Tree Maker, the latest version, updates, features, and more. This is an interactive session. We love to see you and discuss all your Family Tree Maker questions.

We will also talk about Family Tree Maker partner products – Charting Companion and Family Book Creator – both are amazing plug-ins that can help you create amazing charts, graphs, and books. We will even show how you can make additional finds with your DNA test results. The creators of these partner products will join us to answer your questions directly.

Presenters:

Mark Olsen – Family Tree Maker overview, update, and Q&A

Stefan Harms – Family Book Creator

Pierre Clouthier – Charting Companion

Wrap Up and Door Prize

This class is for all levels of genealogists whether you are just getting started or very experienced. Everyone Welcome!

Questions: scgsworkshopchair@gmail.com



Mark Olsen is the Family Tree Maker Ambassador to historical and genealogical societies around the world working to support their members as they use Family Tree Maker. Mark is a graduate of Brigham Young University and holds a bachelor's degree in Family History with a Spanish records emphasis. He has been working in the genealogy industry since 2007 and has been the Family Tree Maker Ambassador since 2016.

You will need to register for the Zoom Code by emailing:

Frances Osborn – scgen2020@gmail.com with the following information:

FTM Event Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email Address: **(Required)**

Registration Open for RootsTech 2022

Virtual event scheduled for March

Registration is now open for RootsTech 2022, the largest family history event in the world. The annual event, sponsored by [FamilySearch](https://www.familysearch.org), is being held online March 3–5, 2022.

RootsTech offers a forum where people of all ages across the globe are inspired to discover and share their memories and make meaningful connections. Register for free at [rootstech.org](https://www.rootstech.org) today. RootsTech 2022 will be a virtual-only experience, with some enhancements and improvements.

A new set of educational classes will be featured during 2022, along with new technologies to explore in the virtual expo hall and inspiring stories shared by a fascinating lineup of keynote speakers.

“RootsTech 2022 is sure to be an incredible experience once again,” said Jen Allen, event director for RootsTech. “Earlier this year, we organized our first-ever virtual event amid a pandemic—something we never thought would happen. But as we watched the participants come together to provide joyful learning experiences in many different languages, we knew something special was taking shape.”

Classes for the event will have a mix of on-demand, livestream and interactive sessions that will allow attendees to learn, grow and connect to people all over the globe. Participants will also be able to connect with fellow attendees, speakers, experts and enthusiasts. In 2022, the planners of RootsTech are looking to take that experience to the next level.

RootsTech is a place of connection. “We witnessed incredible connections [in 2021] between participants all over the world,” said Steve Rockwood, CEO of FamilySearch. “As they connected to their homelands, and ultimately to their families, they then connected to each other. At FamilySearch, we choose connection, and we witness every day the ways family history transcends all walls of separation and unites us as the true story of humanity unfolds.” While there will always be some differences between the in-person and online experiences, RootsTech will continue to expand its online experience while working toward a time when the hybrid model can once again be offered.

“We are busy creating innovative ways to capture and share messages of culture, unity and connection that push the boundaries of what a virtual conference can be. We can’t wait to share what we’ve got in store,” added Allen.

For more information, visit [rootstech.org](https://www.rootstech.org). The conference is free and open to anyone. For updates, be sure to follow RootsTech on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

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 (out of stock)	_____	_____
_____	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	_____	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED		_____	_____

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

NAME _____

STREET/P.O. BOX _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

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: ----- \$ 24.00

Family: ----- \$ 29.00

(you and one other)

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

Associate: ----- \$ 18.00

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

Return service requested

**Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 1086
Greenville, SC 29602**

Upcoming Events

December 18, 2021 Greenville Meeting at Rolling Green Village

December 14 Miracle Mongers – Chautauqua

January 11, 2022 Family Tree Maker (Virtual) See Page12

January 13, 2022 James Armisstead - Chautauqua

March 3-5, 2022 Roots Tech (Virtual) See Page13

May 25-28, 2022 NGS – Sacramento, California

May 31-Jun 3, 2023 NGS – Richmond, Virginia