



## **Greenwood County Historical Society**

P.O. Box 49653, Greenwood, SC 29649

January 2022

### **Presidents Message - January 2022**

#### **Let's Tour Greenwood County**

Welcome to our first 2022 newsletter and meeting. We will gather on Sunday, January 23, at 3:00 pm in the Greenwood County Public Library Auditorium to hear Dr. Jodie Peeler and Ralph Scurry discuss their collaborative work, the book "Touring Greenwood County." Dr. Peeler, a Greenwood County native, is professor of Communications at Newberry College. Mr. Scurry from the Callison area spends much time in Edgefield working with local genealogy and history. Please make plans to be with us!

#### **Homes Honored**

We had a great meeting on October 24th for our annual Architectural Preservation and Restoration Award ceremony. Congratulations again to Zach & Julia McClanahan, Buck & Jean Griffin, and Jamie & Amy Reese. We also heard a fascinating story from author Marion Sturkey on "The Bald Eagle of Edgefield", Cokesbury's Martin Witherspoon Gary. Now is the time to start nominations for the 2022 APRA Award. Nomination forms may be found on our website at [www.greenwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.greenwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com).

#### **Long Cane Anniversary on February 6**

GCHS, Abbeville History Friends, and local historians will gather in Troy on Sunday, February 6 at 2:00 pm at Lower Long Cane ARP Church for the 262nd Anniversary of the Long Canes Massacre. Eric Williams will present his new painting of Patrick Calhoun and unveil an Interpretive Wayside marker. I will speak on the importance of the massacre in local history and its place in SC.

#### **Calling all Cooks—find your place in history**

Our July 24 meeting will feature John Robert Young's new book "Greenwood's Hotels—The Riley, the Oregon, and the Moreland." To complete the story the GCHS Board wants to prepare some of the more iconic recipes from these legendary hotels. Would you like to participate? We can provide the recipe and you can cook at home and bring it in for the "Tasting" during our July 24 meeting. Please let me know or contact our VP/Webmaster at [missylowery@pobox.com](mailto:missylowery@pobox.com)

#### **Welcome new members and look forward to seeing you all**

Welcome our new members Ms. JoEtta Shick, Ms. Katherine Rogers, and Jamie & Amy Reese. Thanks to all our members who have sent their renewal dues. If you did not, there is still time to update your membership for 2022! **Mark your 2022 calendar**--our dates are January 23, April 24, July 24, October 23

Yours in history, Chip

**Ctinsley63@yahoo.com**

# GREENWOOD HISTORY: OUR OLD ROADS

By Harry Legare Watson

These sketches about the early travel routes in the area that is now Greenwood County and early families who lived along the old roads were written by the editor of *The Index-Journal* of Greenwood, and were published weekly in this newspaper from August 18, 1940 (with an occasional break) until February 1950, numbered 1-428. They include considerable family history information as well as local and area history. They will be reprinted here in following issues with the permission of the editor of *The Index-Journal*.

No.100 (Part One)

Saturday, August 22, 1942

Returning eastward from Mt. Vernon Church into what is now Greenwood county and entering the old Blocker road near the home of the late Wm. H. Clegg Jr., it is but a short distance to Clegg's Cross Roads already mentioned. The place, as has been noted, was the second location of the Kirksey postoffice, the first having been at Sheppard's Cross Roads down below on the Martin Town road (first known as Kirksey's Tavern—site sold by John Kirksey to James Sheppard--); the second at Clegg's Cross Roads, first settled by Samuel Stevens, native of New England; then at a site above the S. P. Mathews home place where the Rev. Mr. Bodie had a store and jug factory or pottery plant; and then the fourth and final location was at Kirksey as is now known. The last location was before the War Between the States.

At Clegg's Cross Roads was the lodge building of Friendship Masonic Lodge No. 25, A. F. M. This organization under this name was given a charter in 1856 with Maj. Z. W. Carwile as W. M.; S. W. Corley, S. W.; and Robert Turner, the school teacher, as J. W. But according to Mackey's Masonic History of South Carolina this was really a revival of the very old Edgefield Lodge No. 46 which first met at Abney's Store in the eastern part of Edgefield now Saluda county. Later the Lodge met at Old Cambridge and still later at John Kirksey's Tavern. It is mentioned so early as 1817. By 1829 it had become extinct. Some of the members sought to establish a new Lodge at Liberty Hill. Their petition was first refused by the Grand Lodge

but later a Lodge was established at Liberty Hill and named Caldwell Lodge.

Frequent references to the early German settlers of this section suggest a statement as to how there came to be such a settlement this far back in the Up Country before the Revolution.

The German settlers in the Kirksey community were from the same section of Germany as those who settled the much larger and older "Dutch Fork Settlement" in Newberry but those around Kirksey came nearly twenty years after the Germans had first settled in that part of Newberry below the court house and in the "fork" formed by Saluda and Broad rivers. The settlement around Kirksey was not so happy as the Newberry contingent. The settlers around Kirksey (the name was not in existence then) were victims of sickness both on the voyage over and after they got here. Many died and others had a very hard time for the first years spent in the new home.

These Germans were often referred to as Palatines from the rich Rhine valley country from which they came in Germany. They began to move out of Germany so early as 1700 because of religious persecution. They were all Protestants. It is estimated that fully thirteen thousand of them eventually made their way to England, some to North Ireland and most of the finally to America. Many settled in Pennsylvania (the Pennsylvania Dutch), some in New York State and many in both North and South Carolina.

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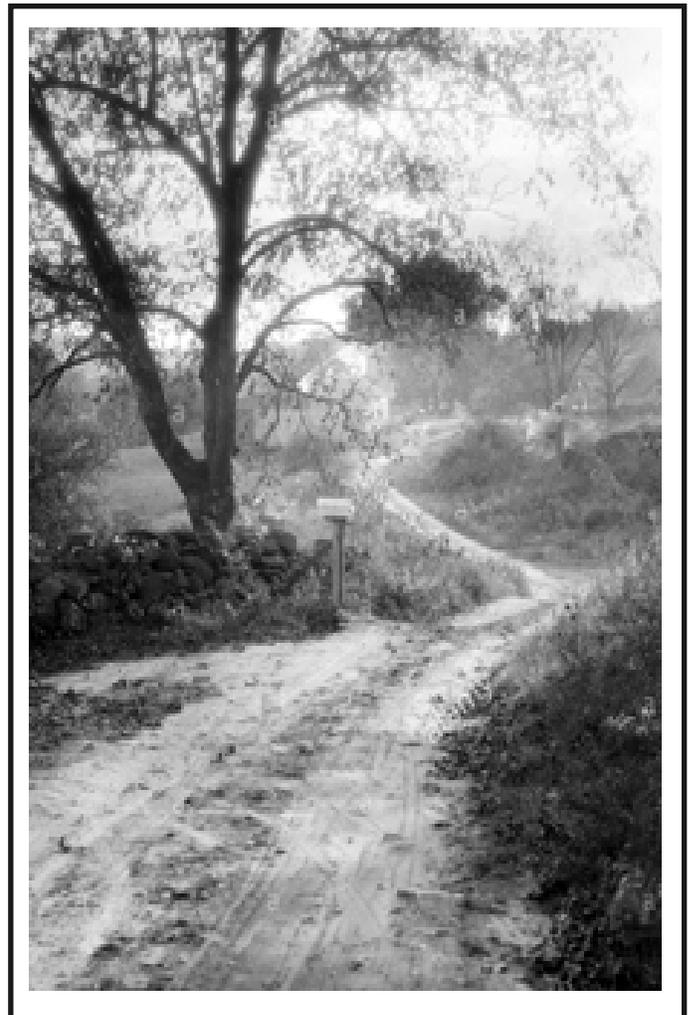
A brief statement on how these “poor German Protestants” happened to settle in this part of South Carolina is from “The Hard Labor Section” by Dr. H. T. Cook.

About twelve years before the American Revolution,” a German military officer, out of a job, Col. John Henry Christian de Stumpel, in order to receive large grants for bringing emigrants to America, persuaded about five hundred Germans called Palatines (from their German homeland section) to leave their country and sail to America by way of London. And there (in London) having gotten possession of their money, he absconded and left these emigrants in utter poverty and helplessness in a strange city.” A description of their sufferings as strangers and around the city of London is given by Hewatt. McCrady in following Hewatt says the English government allowed a bounty of three hundred pounds (English money) and merchants of London contributed cash and supplies and arranged for their transportation to South Carolina. Two ships of two hundred tons each (very small as compared with modern vessels) and provisions of all kinds were loaded and one hundred and fifty “stands of arms” given them for their defence after they arrived in America. Everything being ready, the German Palatines broke their camps around London where they had been living in tents, and proceeded to the ships “attended by many of their benefactors of whom they took leave with songs of praise to God in their mouths and tears of gratitude in their eyes.”

McCrady says they arrived in Charlestown in April 1764. But he is in error with regard to those who came up to what is now Kirksey because some of these received grants of land from the Council in Charleston evidently in this present Kirksey area on March 2, 1764. The “Poor German Protestants”

who settled on hard Labor came a short time after the ones who settled east of Cuffee Town. Having come to Charlestown with instructions from the King of England directed to Governor Boone to receive them and send them to a township in the interior with provisions and other necessaries so that they could build their cabins, clear patches of ground and make a crop, it was not natural for these Germans to feel grateful to King George and as Dr. Cook says: “if any persons in America were excusable for being Tories and friends of the King before a dozen years had passed, it was the men in this number who could not forget the kindness of the King in their great necessity. “However, some of them were American soldiers during the Revolution.

*(To be continued)*



# Greenwood Historical Society presents

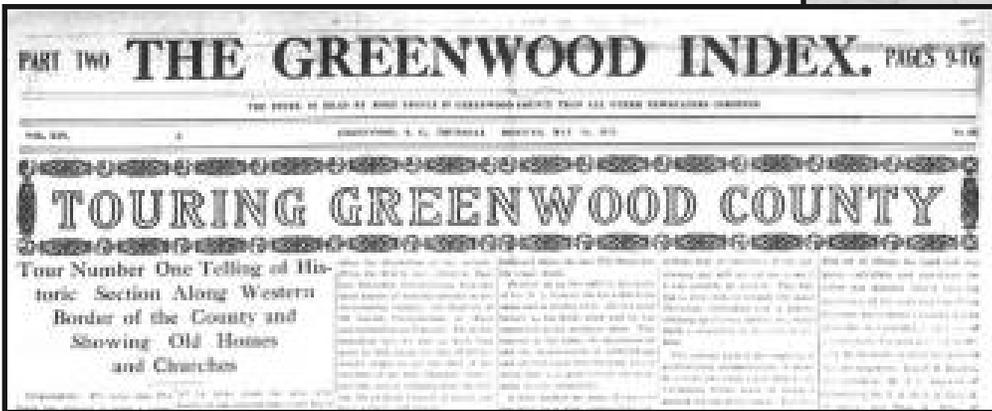
“Touring Greenwood County” Sunday, Jan. 23 at  
3:00 at the Greenwood County Library Auditorium

From 1911 to 1913, *The Greenwood Index* published 29 installments of “*Touring Greenwood County.*” It started out as a motor tour and ended up a meandering account of people, places, local history and more. Now those tales are woven together in an entertaining look at Greenwood through the work of collaborative authors Dr. Jodie Peeler and Ralph Scurry in their book “*Touring Greenwood County.*” Dr. Peeler, a Greenwood County native, is Professor of Communications at Newberry College, where she teaches journalism and specializes in media history and law. Mr. Scurry lives in the Callison area and spends much time in Edgefield working with local genealogy and history.

## TOURING GREENWOOD COUNTY

The original series  
as published in  
*The Greenwood Index,*  
1911-1913

edited by Jodie Peeler  
and Ralph Scurry  
with original photographs by Don Ferguson



Please join us on Sunday, January 23 at 3:00 in the Greenwood County Public Library Auditorium as the authors relate their journey in capturing the past and making it recognizable today.

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P.O. Box 49653  
Greenwood, SC 29649  
Return Service Requested

