



Greenwood County Historical Society

P.O. Box 49653, Greenwood, SC 29649

July 2022

Presidents Message - July 2022

Preparing for our 250th Celebration

We had a great visit on Sunday April 24 as Greenwood native and member of the Greenwood & S.C. Historical Society, Bill Davies, shared the plans from the SC American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission, The SC Liberty Trail & GREENWOOD COUNTY 250 committee for celebration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of our nation in 2026! Many GCHS board and members are on the planning commission. Our mission is to celebrate and promote Greenwood's role in the American Revolution by educating, engaging, and inspiring South Carolinians and visitors to our area. Any thoughts, ideas, or desires you have to be involved as the process moves forward, please contact me!

A Taste of Greenwood from times past next Sunday, July 24

Our next meeting on Sunday, July 24 at The Federal Building Greenwood Arts Center, will feature John Robert Young, GCHS board member, who has written two new books—Greenwood's Hotels---The Riley, the Oregon, and the Moreland, and How Greenwood Entertained—Menus, Recipes, and Society Pages. A talented crew of Greenwood Historical Society cooks and culinarians will present a tasting menu based on recipes from the era. Come and enjoy!

Mark your calendar for our last meeting on October 23

We will present our 11th annual Architectural Awards and feature Dennis Chastain, award-winning outdoor writer, historian, tour guide and naturalist, who will speak on the route of the Cherokee Trail in South Carolina. Dennis serves as the Blue Wall Vice-President of the Pickens County Historical Society and is working to secure funding for a historically accurate reconstruction of the colonial era Fort Prince George.

Nomination forms for the 2022 ARPA Award: may be found on our website

www.greenwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com. Mail to: GCHS, PO Box 49653, Greenwood SC, 29649, or ctinsley63@yahoo.com, or call 864-374-7416. Thank you for participating!

Passing of a good friend and welcome to others

We offer our condolences to the family of lifetime member "Beeka" Coleman who passed away recently. Her stories, postcard collection and recollections helped make Greenwood memorable. We welcome new members, Bob & Jean Gantt. Thank you to "The Gary Foundation" for their generous donation toward the continued upkeep and maintenance of Tabernacle Cemetery.

Yours in history, Chip Tinsley

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.101 (Part Two)

Saturday, August 22, 1942

(continued from Newsletter #42)

On the 15th of March, 1765, Gov. Bull in a letter to the Lord's Proprietors said:

"I have the honor to acquaint your Lordships that in obedience to his majesty's command, the German Protestants are settled together about 12 miles south of Ninety Six, which spot was pitched upon by the first part who went out of town as the most eligible on account of their security, having many English settlers on their Frontiers, who are more accustomed to see Indians and know better how to behave toward them. The land where the Germans are seated is good but not quite so rich as that which lies more westerly; this they were informed of, but for the reason above mentioned declined going there.

I have given the name of London borough to this settlement in honor of the gentlemen of the city of London whose liberal contributions after his majesty's great example, these emigrants have been maintained and sent hither. I have appointed militia officers out of their own body and one of them to be Justice of the Peace, with a book compiled for the instruction for the justices of this province. This I hope will preserve good order amongst them and prevent those jealousies which strangers are apt to conceive of their being improperly treated by the English, until they understand our language and laws.

To encourage a military spirit and attachment to the English, I gave them a set of silk colored with the name of their township wrought thereon, and recommended them to some of the best English in that neighborhood for instruction in agriculture of

our climate tho, I put them as well as the French Protestants of Hillsborough upon going well with their whole strength next year upon raising hemp by giving to each township several bushels of seen now and advising that they should prepare for a future staple of silk by planting mulberries. The party who went up January last had finished their huts by the beginning of this month, as all of them would have done, if it had been their good fortune to have had their baggage with or soon after them."

Their situation becoming desperate the German settlers selected two of their number Peter Dorst (Durst) and Henry Adolph to make a trip to Charlestown and petition the authorities for help. The two set forth that their provisions and money had given out and that they would have to abandon their settlement if they did not get help. Lieutenant Governor William Bull, still acting as chief executive of the Province of South Carolina, told them such help could not be granted but did allow them thirty pounds sterling to cover their expenses in making the long journey—about one hundred and fifty miles.

In the Fall of 1767, the famous Wedgewood pottery works of England sent a representative T. Griffiths, over here to investigate the matter of securing clay suitable for their pottery. Griffiths landed in Charlestown and made a trip up through the Back country, going as far as what is now Franklin in North Carolina. He spent the night in the home of one of the German settlers on Cuffee Town creek and he noted in his diary the pitiable condition of the other settlers that he saw. They may have had malaria from his descriptions of their sallow complexions and general sick appear-

(continued on next page)

ance. Griffiths went on and spent the following night in the home of Andrew Williamson, afterwards General Williamson of the Revolution, at what is now our White Hall and was greatly impressed with the delightful appearance of things around this place, the fine peach orchard and other fruits.

But three years later, Lieutenant Governor William Bull was able to write a better description of the German settlers in what is now Kirksey and Winterseat communities.

This is an extract from his letter of that year to the Board of Trade in London:

“They have surmounted the difficulties which naturally attend all new settlers, especially to strangers to the climate and language. By their industry they now enjoy all such conveniences as are to be found with the humble state of life---comfortable houses, orchards, plenty of provisions, stocks of cattle, hogs, poultry, horses for labor. They now raise more than they can consume and consequently add to their capital. Some raise flour and some raise hemp. They are loyal and very useful and orderly members of the community....”

The German Protestants after becoming rooted in the new land and prospering as noted by Lieutenant Governor William Bull, established two churches in this section. One was at or near the present McKendree Methodist church on Sleepy Creek and the other was just above the bridge over Hard Labor near Winterseat. These will be noted further.

It should be noted that the above list of German Protestants is the only one mentioned in the minutes of the Council in Charleston as having “safely arrived....from London.” The date of this entry as noted above was Feb. 27, 1765. These undoubtedly were members of the unfortunate victims of the visionary scheme of Col. Stumpel.

The Gentlemen’s Magazine published in London in its issue of Oct. 1764, Vol, 34 has this refer-

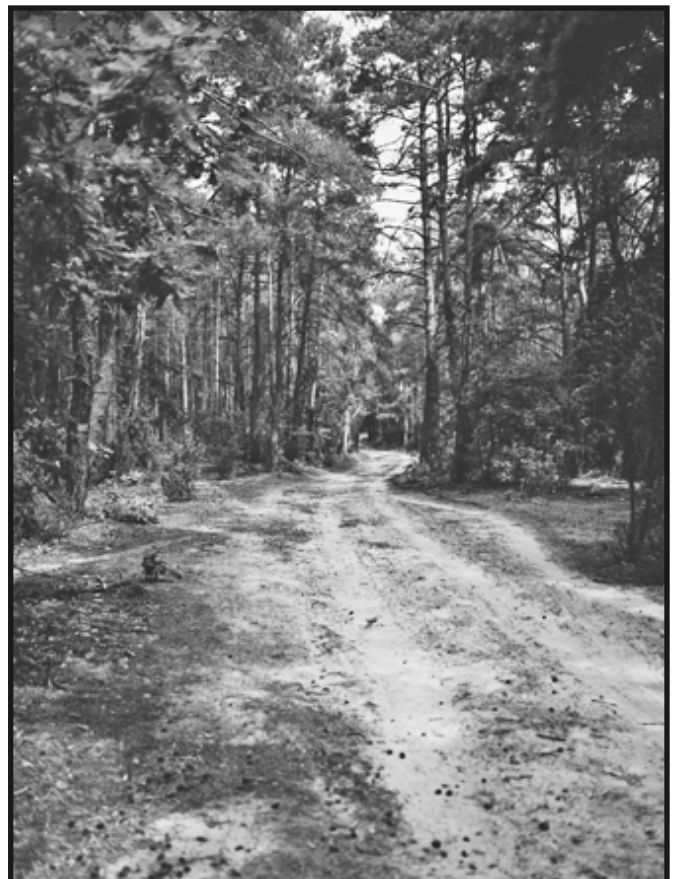
ence to these Palatines: “The Palatines broke up their camp in White Chapel Fields (London) and embarked on board the ships appointed to carry them to the Carolinas.” Whether it took two months or four months to make the voyage is not known.

The minutes of Council listing the German Protestants who had petitioned for warrants of survey on Dec. 24, 1764 refers to them as “the Dutch people” and there is no doubt of the fact that these were settled in Kirksey and Winterseat communities as Patrick Calhoun was named to see after their “Hutts” and settlement.

The entry of Mar. 2, 1764 mentioning petitions for warrants of survey says the petitioners were “Poor German Protestants Lately arrived from Germany.”

The Palatines, it should be noted further, had been arriving at Charlestown for some years. The first ones in what is now Newberry came before 1750, according to O’Neill.

(to be continued)



Greenwood Historical Society

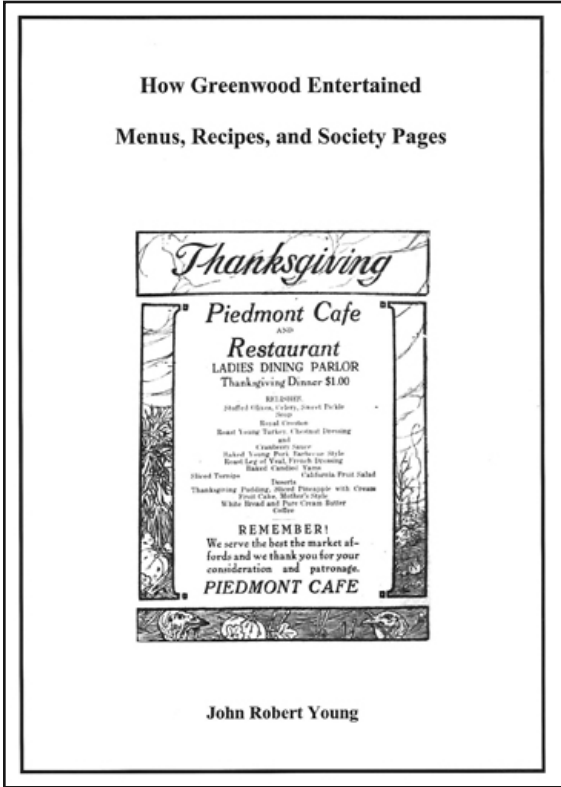
Step back to the past as John Robert Young takes us on a trip to Greenwood in the days before hotel chains.

“How Greenwood Entertained—Menus, Recipes, and Society Pages” and *“Greenwood’s Hotels—The Riley, the Oregon, and the Moreland”* are two new books from author John Robert Young and the focus of

Greenwood County Historical Society meeting on July 24 at the Federal Building Greenwood Arts Center. The Riley, the Oregon and the Moreland were well-known and well-respected and set the stage for the growth of Greenwood County. From 1900 to 1950, dining rooms, tea rooms and cafes offered sophistication, good food and made occasions memorable.

To help bring the presentation to life, a culinary team of twelve GCHS members will present a *“Tasting Menu”* with dishes from recipes in *“How Greenwood Entertained”* – including Orange Sherbet Punch, Cheese Straws, Spanish Filling and Snappy Cheese celery trunks, Ambrosia Salad, Fried Corn, Sweet Potato Soufflé, Chicken Pie, Chicken A la King, Southern Pecan Pie and Sand Dabs.

Join us at 3:00 pm on Sunday, July 24 in the Ballroom of the Federal Building Greenwood Arts Center.



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Return Service Requested

