

To Be Continued...

A PUBLICATION OF THE UPPER DORCHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our Mission: To Research, Record and Preserve Our County's History

PO Box 15, Dorchester, SC 29437

August 2011

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Membership Meeting
Thursday, August 25 at 7:00 PM
Koger House
Guest Speaker Jim Way,

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members:

On May 19th the dedication, of the Dorchester County Courthouse and the new county flag, was well attended by over one hundred. Our society was recognized for their assistance in creating a new county flag. Special thanks to Mrs. Jean Behling for her help with this historic project.

The historical marker for the St. Paul Camp Ground has been ordered. This camp ground will be the third site marked by our society. St. Paul Camp Ground, dating back to the 1880s, is located on St. Paul Road in Harleyville. The camp ground trustees are very excited about the marker. An unveiling ceremony is being planned for October 9th. More information will be forthcoming. All members are invited to attend.

All the research for the cemetery book has been completed. Researchers have worked very hard to include all cemeteries and every inscription. All of the information has been compiled by Bill Blakely. Publication of this book would not have been possible without his expertise. I would like to personally thank Bill for all his hours spent compiling the thousands of names and dates recorded. I would also like to thank Wallace Kizer and Tim Mizzell for chairing the committee, Jim Way, Peggy Phalen, Suzanne Infinger and Frank Thomas for recording all of the information and to all of those that assisted in this project. Hopefully the book will be published and ready for Christmas.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 25th at 7 PM at the Koger House. I look forward to seeing you there. Find someone who loves history and bring them. Jim Way will be our guest speaker. His topic is early mill dams, how they were made and how they worked.

Phyllis

Meet Our Lifetime Members

Deborah Appleby	Douglas M. Koger
Coe McMahan Atherton	Jack Limehouse
Edith Axson	John Maller
Ann Bailey	Dean McCracken
George Bailey	Bob McKinnon
Dr. Ed. Behling	Bobbie McKinnon
Jean Behling	E. O. McMahan
Mattie Lee Browning	Diane Minus
Ed Carter	Dickie Minus
Theresa Carter	Harold Mizzell
Jessie Cockcroft	Timothy Mizzell
Terry Collier	John Moorer
Dr. Paul Cooler	Agnes Morrison
Richard Cooler	Mary Pearson
Mary Walters DeAntonio	Florence A. Pitts
David Felkel	Mary Platt
Randy Floyd	Douglas Reeves
Frank Furtick	Mary Margaret Riser
Andrew Gentry	Linda Skelton
Harold George	Betty Sojourner
Beverly Gilmore	David Sojourner, Jr.
Susan A. Greene	David Sojourner, Sr.
Mildred Heatley	Charles Spell
William Herman	Fitzhugh Sweatman
Darrell Hinton	Martha Sweatman
Sissy Williams Howell	Frank Thomas
Carrie Jane Hughes	Marie Thomas
Herbert Hughes	Janice Walker
Jerry Hughes	Grace Walters
Phyllis Hughes	Hugh Walters, III
Heyward Hutson	Jim Way
Wehme A. Hutto	Pete Weathers
Mayor Anne Johnston	Dr. Frances Welch
Mike Kizer	Dr. Brunson Westbury
Wallace Kizer	Robert Williams
Sheriff L. C. Knight	Dr. Chris Wimberly
Rep. Patsy Knight	

Welcome New Lifetime Member

Dean McCracken of Lakeland, Florida

Special Thoughts and Prayers

The family of Dennis Skelton

Get Well

Edith Axson
Betty Carole Myer
Arthur Dukes

Open House Koger House

Plans are underway to have an Open House to allow the public to view the Koger House since the restoration has been completed. The event is being planned for Sunday, November 20th from 2 - 5 PM. Light refreshments will be served. Docents will be dressed in period. If anyone would like to help with this event please contact any of the directors.

Calendar of Events:

Thursday, August 25th, 7 PM	Membership Meeting Koger House
Sunday, October 9th, (TBA)	Erect/Dedication Historical Marker St. Paul Camp Ground
Thursday, November 17th, 7 PM	Membership Meeting Koger House
Sunday, November 20th, 2 - 5 PM.	Koger House Open House

Colonial Dorchester

On December 20, 1695, a ship entered the Charles Town, South Carolina harbor with a group of passengers from the New England colony of Massachusetts. These passengers were the vanguard of a group of Congregationalists who ultimately established the village of Dorchester in what became St. George's Parish. These Congregationalists established a New England style township on the banks of the Ashley River on the edge of the wilderness some twenty-six miles upriver from Charles Town.

The settlement established in 1696 flourished prior to the 1750's. The Anglican influence, which the Congregationalists viewed as negative, combined with a need for land expansion for their younger generation caused them to explore beyond the boundaries of SC for a new settlement. Their pursuit subsequently led them to Midway, Georgia, where they began to acquire land in the mid 1750s.

Most historians state that with the departure of the Congregationalists the village died. The fact is that it continued to thrive until the coming of the American Revolution.

The village was able to survive because there was already a population available to fill the void left by the departure of the Congregationalists in the parish. From the beginning there were many non-Congregationalists in the parish. It was for this reason that the "church" decided to move. The "church" was holding together, though at a price. During their half century stay, the members were slowly being "Anglicanized". Many were adapting to the Southern way of life through economics and agriculture. There was a real fear that the next generation would lose its ties and identity to the church, so the move became the solution.

The fact that the Congregationalists were able to keep any semblance of their culture during this period shows how strong their faith must have been. From the first drawing of lots, non-Congregationalists were invited to take part in the settling of the township. Wealthy plantation owners, usually Anglicans, soon dominated the SC colony. Their political and social influences were to dominate every aspect of life in the colony and in the Dorchester Community.

At the end of the American Revolution, the township and parish went into a tailspin. What was once one of the wealthiest and most influential parishes faded into obscurity.

To Be Continued

(This information was taken from "The Rise and Decline of a Colonial Frontier Village" by Daniel Ray Sigmon.)

St. George Cemetery

"St. George Cemetery," a book of inscriptions from the markers at the St. George Cemetery (formerly "the U.D.C. Cemetery") in the town of St. George, was published in 2008 to benefit the care of the cemetery. It may be obtained locally by visiting the Tri-County Regional Chamber of Commerce, 225 Parler Avenue, The Klauber Building, in St. George (hours 9 to 4 weekdays) for \$30, or by mail for a check of \$35 made payable to Claire Schuetrum, 1340 Dogwood Road, West Columbia, SC 29172.