

To Be Continued . . .

A PUBLICATION OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

101 Ridge Street, St. George, SC 29477

August 2023

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Our August 17th membership meeting is quickly approaching.

In May, the Dorchester Heritage Center held its monthly Discovery Series at the Koger House. The group was led by Leah Applewhite, a 12th generation South Carolinian, who earned her dual Master's degree in historic preservation from Clemson University and the College of Charleston.

As the group explored the historic landmark, Leah pointed out special features of the construction of the house. "It's a Georgian-style house---The most important characteristic of Georgian homes is their symmetry; you can cut them in half and they will be the same on either side. They are very square and simple with not curves and no verandas," said Applewhite. She explained that the term Georgian refers to the Hanover monarchy, England's King George I-IV. She pointed out several Georgian details in the Koger House, such as the ghost marks on the door where the original ironwork was, its modest fireplaces and hand wrought nails.

A large crowd enjoyed learning more about the history of the house.

The monthly discovery series is sponsored by the Dorchester Heritage Center. Each month a new speaker and topic are chosen in an effort to take the history out into the community. If you would like to learn more about these talks, please reach out to LaClaire Mizell, Director of the DHC, at 843-931-1020.

I look forward to seeing you on August 17th. Please come out and bring a friend.

The public is always welcome.

Phyllis

**Membership Meeting
Thursday 17 August 2023
7 PM At Koger House**

Memorials

In Memory of:

Coe McMahan Atherton

by Phyllis Hughes

In Remembrance:

It is with much sadness that our society has lost another Lifetime Member, Coe Atherton. Coe was the eldest daughter of Edgar Oliver McMahan, Jr. and Jennie Johnston McMahan of St. George. She died on Monday, June 26, 2023.

Coe's father Mr. "Mack" as he was lovingly called was one of the founders of the Dorchester County Historical Society. She will truly be missed.

Get Well

Linda Baker

Joy Kizer

Membership Dues

Payable by March 1, 2023

Annual dues: \$25.00

Lifetime Membership: \$250.00

Make Checks Payable To DCHS

Mail to: Ms. Bobbie McKinnon

c/o DCHS

101 Ridge St.

St. George, SC 29477

(Please include current home and email address.)

NOTE

As of March 31, 2022 all annual (yearly) members who are not current with their dues will have their names removed from the Membership Rolls.

DCHS 2023 Calendar of Events:

Membership Meeting	Thursday, August 17	7 pm	Koger House
Living History Fundraiser	Saturday, Oct 21	10 am-5 pm	Koger House
	Sunday, Oct 22	10 am-3 pm	Koger House
Membership/Awards Meeting	Thursday, Nov 16	7 pm	Koger House

Please check our website for updates at www.scdchs.com

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THURSDAY 17 AUGUST 2023
7:00 PM
AT KOGER HOUSE

Special Thanks from Phyllis Hughes, President

As most of you are aware, I lost my husband of over 50 years on June 21, 2023. The outpouring of condolences, cards, calls, text, and memorials have been so greatly appreciated. As most of you are aware, I have been the president of this organization since its inception. Meeting and getting to know all of you, friends that appreciate history and diligently work hard to preserve it, has and still means the world to me. Researching, recording and preserving our history together has given me such remarkable memories and you all mean so much to me.

Restoration and maintaining the Koger House has taken a lot of hard work, but looking back this house will be our legacy. Generations to come can only wonder how such a small group of people could accomplish such a feat. I can only tell you that since day one, God has truly blessed the efforts of this society and he has truly blessed me by bringing us together.

Memorials given in memory of Henry Hughes \$1540.00

Revolutionary War History
“Just a Small Piece”

In referring to the old fort that remains at Colonial Dorchester, an excerpt from the *Days of Dorchester*, a book published during the Tricentennial of Dorchester County states:

Where the Ashley River is narrow, there is a bridge, called Bacon’s, a well-known name in Revolutionary days. Over this bridge, Cornwallis and Greene, Tarleton and Marion, Rawdon and Sumter, were continually chasing each other, now back, now forth, now pursuing, now pursued, like so many specters of Tam o’ Shanter; at least so it seems to the superficial reader.

IT IS KNOWN that this fort was built before 1719, as a protection against the Indians, and probably it dates even farther back. It was repaired in 1775 as a place of refuge in case Charles Towne should be captured and was used as a gathering point for the militia and for covering the back country.

Moultrie, the hero of the glorious little palmetto fortress on Sullivan’s Island, and Marion, the brilliant daring will-o’-the-wisp of the swamps, both commanded at different times this little fort on the Ashley.

In Moultrie’s memoirs there is the following:

“November, 1775 --- Information having been received that the Scoffol lights”(Scoville light troops) “were coming down from the back country in great force to carry off the ammunition and public records that were lodged at Dorchester, I received orders to send a reinforcement immediately to that place.”

“November 10, 1775 ----- To Capt. Francis Marion: You are to proceed with all expedition, with yours and Capt. Huger’s companies, to Dorchester to re-enforce the troops there, and to take special care in guarding and defending the cannon, gunpowder and public records at that place. You are to take command of the whole of the forces there until further orders. You are to apply to the committee at Dorchester for a sufficient number of Negroes in the public service to remove the cannon lying near the water-side to a spot more safe near the fort”

“William Moultrie”

Later, in 1779, Gen. Moultrie wrote to Gen. Lincoln as follows:

“I have halted troops at Dorchester, where I intend to form my camp ready to support you.”

“William Moultrie”

