

To Be Continued . . .

A PUBLICATION OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mission Statement: To Research, Record and Preserve the History of Dorchester County

101 Ridge Street, St. George, SC 29477

February 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phyllis Hughes
President

LaClaire Mizell
1st Vice President

(Vacant)
2nd Vice President

Bobbie McKinnon
Membership Secretary

Bill Blakely
Treasurer

Laura Westbury
Recording Secretary

Daniel Prohaska
Grant Writer

Chuck Spell
Sandy Shelley
Priscilla Elledge
Event Coordinators

Priscilla G. Elledge
Newsletter

Rodney Canaday
Project Manager

Jean Behling
Director Emeritus

Dear Members,

Happy New Year and Happy Anniversary! The Dorchester County Historical Society is now 20 years old! We received our official charter in 2004. Looking back over the many years, it has been a blessing to get to know all of our members. It has been through your support that this organization has thrived. Our many accomplishments are the publication of *The Diary of David Gavin 1855-1874* (2004), the restoration of the Historic Koger House (ca 1780s) completed in 2009, the publication of *Upper Dorchester County A View of the Past* (2009), the publication of *Memorial Stones of Upper Dorchester County, South Carolina* (2012), and the erection of nine historical markers registering camp grounds, schools, towns, and a sawmill.

Each year during our November meeting (Awards Night), we recognize those who have helped fulfill our mission to research, record, and preserve our county's history. On November 16, 2023, Jack Smith, Dorchester County Poet Laureate, was honored for his poetic contributions shared with the society over the years. Ralph James and Doug Reeves were honored for their dedicated leadership in the restoration of the Rosenwald School (1925). Chelsea Cunningham and Grace Case with *178 Crossroads* were recognized for remodeling and opening a gift shop in Rosinville. Taylor Hughes and Lauren Creel also represented *178 Crossroads* as local school employees. Austin and Alvin Holcomb were recognized for opening *Sewer Daddy* on Parler Ave. in St. George after remodeling the former grocery store building. Jessica Fralix also opened a shop, *Jus' Stylin*, on Parler Ave. that was formerly a floral shop. Edward Sanders is remodeling the former Carrie Lou Westbury Shieder house on Quaker Road. We thank all of them for their preservation efforts.

In January 2024, the directors met and decided that instead of a quarterly membership meeting, the society will hold an annual membership/soiree' at the Koger House the 3rd Sunday in May. Also, the Events Committee is working to plan fundraisers for this year. On April 20th, the society will host our Annual Spring Tea at Brosnan Forest. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please reach out to Sandy Shelly at 843-425-9304.

Thank you again for all the many years of support!

Phyllis

AWARDS NIGHT

On November 16, 2023, President Phyllis Hughes presented certificates to both individuals and businesses who have supported the mission of the Dorchester County Historical Society to research, record, and preserve the history of our county.



C. J. Johnson, Phyllis Hughes & Dorchester County Poet Laureate, Jack Smith



Ralph James, Phyllis & Doug Reeves Rosenwald School



Taylor Hughes, Lauren Creel, Phyllis, & Chelsea Cunningham 178 Crossroads



Austin Holcomb, Phyllis & Alvin Holcomb Sewer Daddy



Jessica Fralix with family & Phyllis Jus' Stylin



Edward Sanders & Phyllis Carrie Lou Westbury Shieder Home

Continued Get Well Wishes ~

Linda Baker Jean Behling Joy Kizer

!!! Membership Dues !!!

Payable by March 1, 2024

DCHS is requesting that all members receive their newsletters through email. The cost to print and mail the newsletters has steadily increased and involves hours of volunteer time. To offset this increase, an additional \$5.00 membership fee will be incurred for those who wish to continue having their newsletters mailed beginning March 1, 2024. Please send your email address to Priscilla Elledge elledgep1951@yahoo.com or text it to (843) 412-6319. Thank you for your continued support.

Individual Annual dues: \$25.00 (*\$30.00 to mail newsletters)

Individual Lifetime Membership: \$250.00

Make Checks Payable To DCHS

Mail to: Ms. Bobbie McKinnon

DCHS

c/o 101 Ridge St.

St. George, SC 29477

(Please include current home and email address.)

NOTE

As of March 31, 2024 all annual members who are not current with their dues will have their names removed from the membership rolls.

DCHS 2024 Calendar of Events

Spring Tea
Membership Soiree'

April 20, 2024

May 19, 2024

Brosnan Forest
Koger House

The History of Dorchester County South Carolina

For over 15 years, a small group of members have been researching and recording the history of Dorchester County. The project has been led by Phyllis Hughes and Jean Behling. Our newly published and beautiful hardbound book is a compilation of early histories written by many local citizens passed down through generations, oral histories collected by members of the DCHS, and research of historical records donated to the Dorchester Heritage Center Archives in St. George.

The cost of the book is \$50. It will be available for purchase at Dorchester Heritage Center at 101 Ridge St. in St. George and the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce, 225 N Parler Ave., St. George, S.C. If you order by mail, please send your order to DCHS, c/o Phyllis Hughes, PO Box 15, Dorchester, S.C. 29437. Please add \$10.00 for shipping and handling when ordering by mail. You can also order copies through our website – www.scdchs.com.

NEWS FROM THE DORCHESTER HERITAGE CENTER

Hello from the Heritage Center! I can't believe we have already welcomed 2024!! Plans are being made for our 2024 Discovery Series. Visit our Facebook page and our website www.dorchesterheritagecenter.com for updates. Discovery Series events will also be on EventBrite so visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/dorchester-heritage-center-41981285213> to sign up!

We're so very excited to announce that, out of 85 applications, DHC was chosen as one of 33 sites to host *The Wall That Heals* in 2024. *The Wall That Heals* is a ¾ scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. The exhibit travels throughout the United States annually. The traveling exhibit will be on DHC's property near Ridgeville from October 17 to 20, 2024. It will be free to the public and will be open 24 hours a day. There will be a huge need for volunteers!! We will need between 300 and 500 volunteers for the stay of the exhibit to perform such duties as set up and take down, manning the information tent, assisting visitors at the wall itself, etc. We will also be recruiting sponsors. A dedicated page on our website will be live in the near future so keep checking it. If you would like to join us as we honor those in our area who served and gave the ultimate sacrifice during the Vietnam War, please reach out to us.

One of the things that makes this particular traveling exhibit so special is the *In Memory* Honor Roll. As part of the exhibit, local Vietnam Veterans who died after returning home are eligible to be honored as part of the *In Memory* Honor Roll display. Since the Vietnam War ended, thousands of Vietnam veterans have suffered due to Agent Orange exposure, PTSD and other illnesses as a result of their service. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) believes all those who served in Vietnam should be honored and remembered for their service. The *In Memory* program enables the families and friends of those who came home and later died the opportunity to have them be forever memorialized. All veterans from South Carolina honored through *In Memory* will have their photos and names on display as part of the mobile Education Center exhibit when *The Wall That Heals* is in Ridgeville. We want to honor as many Vietnam veterans from South Carolina as possible. If your loved one served in Vietnam, returned home and later died – we want to be able to proudly display their name and photo in our community. We're asking for the public's help to identify eligible veterans and get their applications into VVMF so their veteran can be on display in Ridgeville. There is no cost to have a veteran honored and the application process is simple. To honor a loved one, you only need to complete a short application and submit the veteran's DD214 showing their proof of service in Vietnam, a copy of their death certificate and two photographs. Additional information on the *In Memory* program and the application form can be found here: www.vvmf.org/inmemory.

As always, if you have items that you are getting rid of because of downsizing, "spring" cleaning or you just have no more use for, please contact us and see if the items are things that would be good additions to our collections. Please call (843) 931-1021 or e-mail us at contact.dhcsc@gmail.com to make those inquiries.

Come see us soon!

LaClaire Mizell, DHC Director