Dear Members:

In December 2010, the family home of Thomas Joseph Appleby, inherited by the four daughters of Dr. Gavin Appleby, was donated to the UDCHS for restoration. The announcement was made at our February meeting by Margaret Appleby Myers and Wehme Appleby Hutto. The house dates back to the 1920s and is located at 300 Quaker Road in the town limits of St. George. Once the building is restored plans are underway to create a genealogy library. A committee is being formed to help with the restoration. If you would like to serve on the committee please let me know.

On Saturday, April 30th, our Spring Tea at Brosnan Forest was a great success with over 125 people in attendance. Profit made was just over $3000. To date, this was our most successful fundraiser. I would like to thank all of the hostesses that served, sponsors and donators for their support, Karen Villeponteaux for the delicious lunch, Jessie Cockcroft and Cassandra Cooner for the wonderful music and for all the members that donated items for the auction and door prizes. A very special thank you to Norfolk Southern Railroad for the use of their beautiful lodge, to Dorchester County Career and Technology Center for their generous support and to Weeks Department Store for the wonderful fashion show.

Our next meeting is on Saturday, May 14th, 2 PM at the Koger House. Each year in May we schedule the membership meeting on a Saturday to give all of our out of town members a chance to attend. Spread the word and I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

On Thursday, May 19th at 3 PM, a dedication is scheduled at the new Dorchester County Courthouse. Both the courthouse and the new county flag will be dedicated. Please try to attend. Our society was instrumental in the creation of the new county flag.

Phyllis
Meet Our Lifetime Members

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

Welcome New Members

Janice Walker - Lifetime
Mary Margaret Riser - Lifetime

###Membership Dues###
Payable by March 1, 2011
Annual dues: $25.00
Lifetime Membership: $250.00

MAIL
Current home and email address to:
Mrs. Jean Behling
113 Bryant St.
St. George, SC 29472

Calendar of Events:

Saturday, May 14th, 2 PM
Membership Meeting Koger House

Thursday, May 19th, 3 PM
Courthouse/Dorchester County Flag Dedication

Tuesday, May 24th
Dorchester County Corridor Tour will tour Koger House

Thursday, August 25th, 7 PM
Membership Meeting Koger House

October (TBA)
Erect/Dedication Historical Marker St. Paul Camp Ground

Thursday, November 17th, 7 PM
Membership Meeting Koger House
Memorials
Memorial given in honor of Harry & Jean Behling on their 60th Wedding Anniversary
By: Mildred Heatley & Phyllis Hughes
Memorial given in memory of Joan Goldman Godley
By: Mildred Heatley
Memorial given in memory of Madeline Browning Knight
By Mildred Heatley & Phyllis Hughes

Special Thoughts and Prayers
Sympathy
The family of Davis Canaday
The family of Madeline Browning Knight
Get Well
Edith Axson
Betty Carole Myer
Grady Murray
David & Betty Sojourner

Cemetery Committee Report
Much of the cemetery research has been completed. Tim Mizzell, Wallace Kizer, and Phyllis Hughes Chairmen, are working diligently to complete the recording of local church histories and cemetery inscriptions. This is going to be a great book, vital to all genealogists

REMEMINDER
Membership Meeting
Saturday, May 14 at 2PM
Koger House

Koger House Wedding
On Saturday, April 23rd Kevin Dantzler and Jennifer Sweatman exchanged their vows at the historic Koger House. Jennifer is the granddaughter of Fitzhugh and Martha Sweatman. She said that it was an honor to get married at the home of her great-grandparents. Those in attendance said that the wedding was beautiful and the house looked great.
Congratulations to the happy couple.

Gift Presentation
On Saturday, April 30th, at the Spring Tea, a gift was presented to the directors by Chuck Spell. The gift was a beautifully framed print of the Mills Atlas. The print was given as a special thanks for the restoration of the Koger House. Thank you to Chuck Spell and the entire Spell family for their generous gift. It will be such an asset to the society.
Imagine we are back in the time period between 1770 and 1860. Dorchester County, Colleton County, Charleston County, Berkley County – none of these exist. We are in what was famously known as ‘The Colleton District’, named for one of the original lord proprietors, Lord John Colleton. Let’s travel back to the year 1820.

More specifically – we are in a very small area between present day Hwy 61 to the south where the Green Pond is located and Green Pond Church is located, The Ole Wire Road to the north – which is where the Koger-Murray-Carroll House sits as well as the Appleby Church, Hwy 15 to East and Hwy 21 to the West. This is indeed a small section of the former “Colleton District”.

These are “Facts” and “Reported Facts” about this small area: (The word “reportedly” in the following indicates the information has been published with what this author believes is “limited” documentation. Further research is on-going).

1. This area was home to not 1, not 2, not 3, but 4 Members of the South Carolina Legislature between 1800 and the 1850s.

2. Reportedly, this area may have given rise to at least 15 Medical Doctors [Sheridan (1), Stokes (5), Johnston (5 or more), Hucks (1), Connor (3), Appleby (1)]

3. This area was home to the ancestors of at least One Former President of the College of Charleston, Dr. Harry Lightsey.

4. This area has given rise to at least 11 College and University Professors: Dr. Eldred Spell (Western Carolina University), Dr. Everett Spell Jr (Columbia College & University), the late Dr. Charles Raymond Spell (Emory and Henry College), Everett Spell Sr. (College of Charleston), Dr. William Hux Spell (Memphis State University), Dr. Harry Lightsey (College of Charleston), Dr. John Hucks (Southern Methodist University), Dr. James Connor (University of California at San Diego), Dr. William Stokes Connor, Jr. (University of Texas, Austin), Annie Martha Spell-Hill (Columbia College), Dr. William Stokes Connor, Jr. (University of Texas, Austin), Annie Martha Spell-Hill (Columbia College).

5. According to the “Sheridan File” at the Orangeburg Historical Society, this area was reportedly home to a niece of the American Statesman, Revolutionary War Patriot, and first Secretary of the United States Treasury, The Honorable Alexander Hamilton. This niece was Charlotte Hamilton. Reportedly they both attended Greenpond United Methodist Church and possibly also Appleby Church. Both are buried in the area at the Williams-Connor Cemetery.

6. This area was home to what was reportedly the first Mega-Plantation in the area, and reportedly one of the first Mega-Plantations in the South Carolina Low Country [Joel Spell Plantation, 10,000 acres more or less as described by Thomas Raysor and as evidenced in the indenture and equity suit and subsequent lawsuits over the settlement of the estate of Joel Spell Sr.]. However, it appears that between 1790 and 1860 there were likely two Mega-Plantations in the areas, Spell and Stokes. The Plantation of Henry Stokes was reportedly between 12,000 and 18,000 acres.

So, I hope all of this was of some interest. Given that so very much has come out of this very small section of the original Colleton District, I cannot help but wonder what else we might find came out of the original Colleton District.

Chuck Spell, Historian