

Fairfield Genealogical Society • NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Number 3

1991

FAIRFIELD CEMETERY BOOKS READY TO SHIP



Finally, the first two volumes of the Fairfield Cemetery Books are ready. The first volume has been mailed to those people who placed their pre-publication order. The second volume is at the printer and should be ready by the time this is received. The third volume of cemeteries is ready to go to the printer and should be printed within three weeks.

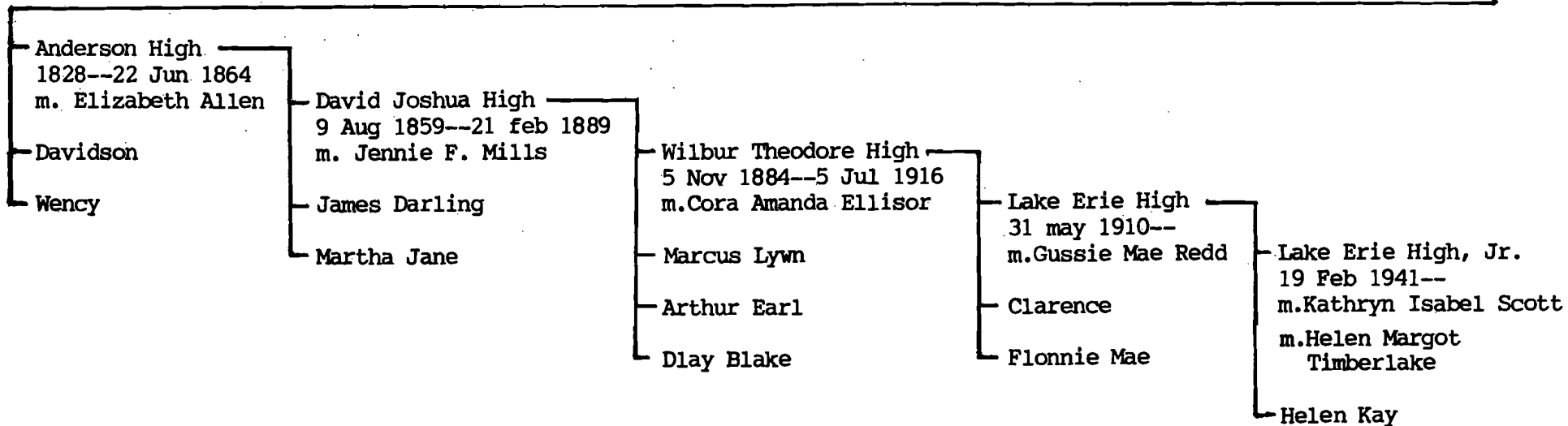
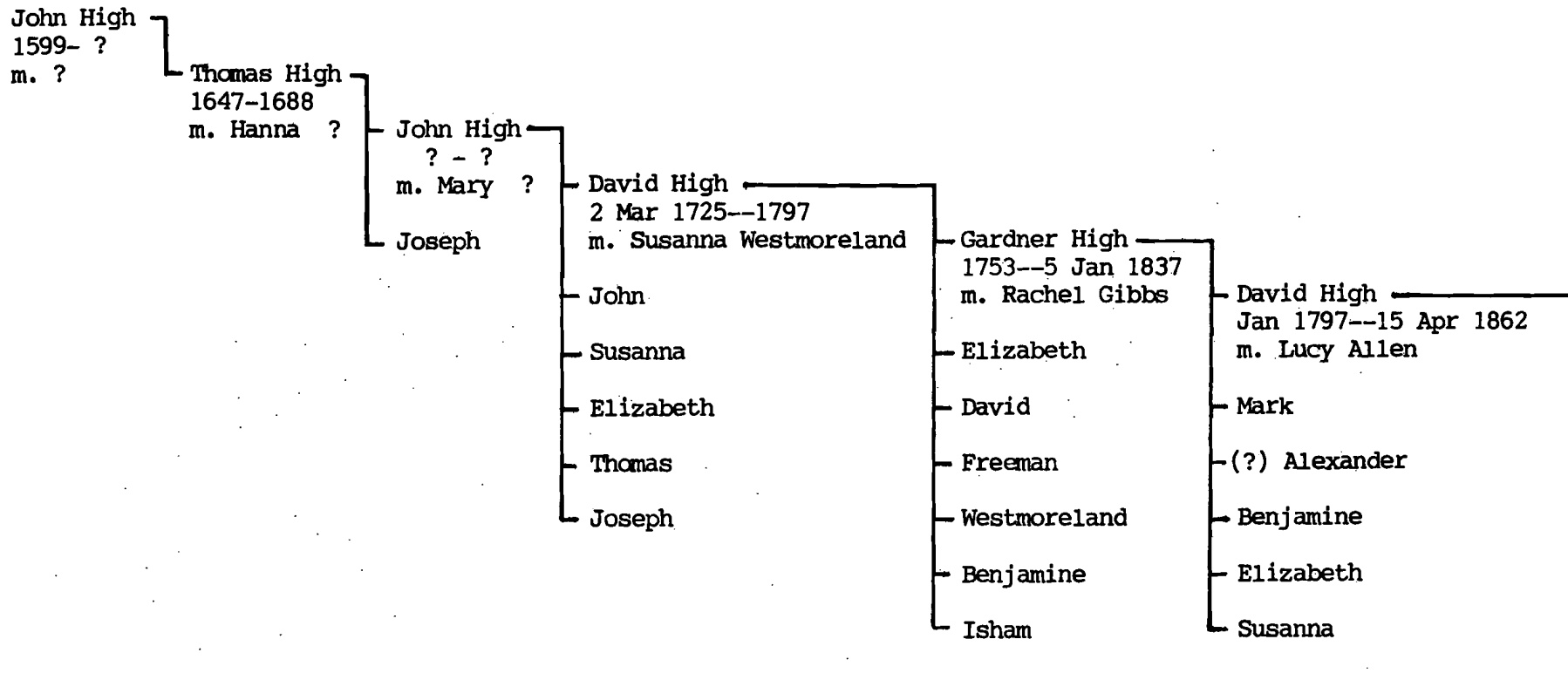
The first volume contains the church cemeteries in the western half of Fairfield county. The western half of the county generally has the oldest graves since it was the Broad River side of the county which was settled first. The second volume contains the church cemeteries in the eastern half of the county. The eastern half is the most populous side of the county.

The third volume, which is complete except for the printing, contains the private family cemeteries in Fairfield county. The third volume has over 120 private cemeteries. It was over thirty years ago that the project of collecting the private cemeteries was begun and it has been continued and updated within the last few years. Some of those private cemeteries are no longer in existence and their only record is in this book.

These private cemeteries are often in out-of-the-way places and many have been lost to general knowledge. An updated map has been included in the book to help locate these cemeteires.

Complete information on how you can order one, or all, of these valuable books is on the order blank on the inside back page of this newsletter.

DESCENT FROM JOHN HIGH (HYE) WHO WAS BORN IN ENGLAND IN 1599,
AND WHO CAME TO VIRGINIA IN 1635.



A High History

by
Lake E. High, Jr.

John Hye (High), b. 1599

John may be my first ancestor in the United States. It is assumed he is the father of Thomas High, but there is no document to prove it. The only connection we have between John High and Thomas High is a listing in Virkus's The Compendium of American Genealogy, Vol. III, Page 791. Virkus's Compendium is, unfortunately, a "mug" book where anyone may submit any undocumented information they wish and it is printed for a fee. The High family piece, however, was written by a professional genealogist who did the work for the Royster family of Raleigh, N.C. and the information published has proven to be correct in every other respect so it may be correct as to John Hye, too.

John came from England to the Island of St. Christopher in the Caribbean (now called St. Kitts) on the ship "Amitie" in 1635. St. Kitts, like Barbados, was an island where many Englishmen went to first try their luck in the new world. John was listed on the ship's manifest as "age 36" which puts his birth date at 1599.

For some reason the colony did not prosper in St. Christopher and he, along with many others, then sailed to Virginia. There are at least two books showing his name--Tepper's Passengers to America and Hotten's The Original List Of Persons Of Quality... We do not know the name of John's wife. John is shown in Virkus' as living in Charles City County, Virginia, which is adjacent to James City County, commonly called Jamestown.

Thomas High, b. 1647 d. 1688 (age 41)

Thomas is assumed to be the son of John, but there is evidence that a Thomas High came to Virginia in 1660 and that may be my Thomas.

Thomas left a number of references in history and is easier to document than John. Thomas was active in Bacon's Rebellion (c. 1675) for which he had to receive a pardon by Lord Berkeley, the Royal Governor of Virginia. Bacon's Rebellion was the first armed rebellion against authority in America and many historians consider it the precursor to the American Revolution 100 years later.

Thomas was a member of the Virginia Militia in the "Horse" (as distinguished from the "Foot".) Thomas also testified in a court case in 1675 where his age is given as 28, making his birth date 1647. Thomas died young and he must have known he was dying because he left a will dated in 1688 when he was only 41 years

old. He mentions his wife and his two minor children, John and Joseph. Thomas' wife was named Hanna, but we do not know her maiden name. She married a Foster within a year of Thomas' death and became Hanna Foster. The name Foster has sometimes been erroneously cited as her maiden name. We do not know of any descendents of Thomas' son Joseph and there is good evidence (but not conclusive) that Joseph died before he reached the age of 21.

Thomas apparently lived all of his life in Surry County, Virginia and his will was probated there in 1688. Surry county is south of the James River and was a separate county when Thomas died, but it was part of "Jamestown" when he was born. If Thomas was born in Virginia, he may have been born in Jamestown.

John High, b. ? d. after 1742.

John's life is not as well documented as his father's, but we do know his wife's name was Mary. We know he died after 1742. We know most, if not all, of his children due to some good church records. His children were: Elizabeth, Joseph, David, John, Thomas, and Susana. It is assumed that the few Highs in Virginia descend from those children of John who remained in Virginia. We know one of John's sons, also named John, left Virginia and moved to North Carolina where Raleigh is now. I descend from his John's son David.

David High, b. 2 March 1725, d. 1797 (age 72)

David lived and died in Surry county, Virginia and he was the last of my High family to do so. David left a will that was probated in Surry county, Virginia, in 1797.

We know the names of several of his children's spouses due to the surviving church records of Bristol Parish, Virginia. His wife is named Susanna, but we have not proven her maiden name. There is strong circumstantial evidence, however, that her maiden name is Westmoreland. We know from a careful study of the parish records that a Susanna Westmoreland was a neighbor of David High and attended the same church. Her listed age is right to have been his wife. That, plus the fact they named one of their sons Westmoreland and she was the only Susanna in the area leads me to believe she was Susanna Westmoreland.

Their children were: Elizabeth; Christian (a girl); William Benjamine, who married Sarah Russell and moved to Spartanburg County, S.C.; Gardner, who married Racial Gibbs; Isom, who married Anna Martin; Freeman, who married Elizabeth Beasley; Westmoreland, who married Polly Hames; Susanna; and Mary. I descend from Gardner.

Gardner High, b. 1753, d. 5 Jan 1837 (age 84)

Gardner was born in Surry county, Virginia, but is generally listed as being from Dinwiddie county. At some time Dinwiddie county, Virginia, was formed from Prince George county which had, in turn, been formed from Surry county. He then moved, along with his wife, Rachel Gibbs, who was from Brunswick county, Virginia, into Montgomery county, N.C., in 1780. By the time they arrived in North Carolina, Gardner had already served as a Minute Man in the Virginia Militia in the Revolution. He then served in the N.C. State Troops, so he actually served in the Revolutionary War in two states.

After Gardner and Rachel lived in Montgomery county, N.C., for a few years they moved across the Rocky River into Anson county, N.C., sometime after the war's end.

Gardner had at least five children and possibly six. His sons were; Mark, Benjamine, David, and possibly Alexander (but Alexander has been difficult to prove). Gardner's daughters were; Elizabeth, who married William Lisk and Susanna, who married a Wesson. Both girls moved to South Carolina with their husbands. Mark moved to Henry county, Tennessee. David and Benjamine stayed in Anson County, N.C. The Highs in and around Anson County descend mostly from Benjamine. Gardner High is buried in the High-Allen family cemetery in Anson county. I descend from Gardner's son David.

David High, b. Jan 1797, d. 15 Apr 1862 (age 65)

David High lived in Anson county only a few miles (less than two) from where he was born. He appears to have been a man of substance due to the size of his plantation, which was 1,200 acres. He married Lucy Allen, the daughter of Darling Allen who is called, in some accounts, the richest man in the county.

Unlike the previous two generations, David had only two sons, Anderson and Davidson and one daughter, Wency. Davidson died unmarried at age 23. He is buried in the High-Allen family cemetery. Wency married Christopher Columbus Braswell and both she and her husband are buried at Red Hill Baptist Church in Anson county, N.C. I descend from David's son Anderson.

Anderson High, b. 1828 d. 22 June 1864 (age 36)

Anderson married his third cousin, Elizabeth Allen. (Anderson's mother was also an Allen.) He was wounded and captured at the battle of Fredricksburg in the War For Southern Independence. He served in the famous Corps of General A. P. Hill which saw some of the heaviest fighting in the whole war. He was paroled from a Yankee hospital and after rejoining his unit he was again wounded and captured at the battle of Gettysburg. He was again paroled and after rejoining his unit he was killed at the siege of Petersburg. He is buried in the High-Allen cemetery

along with others of the family. At least he was brought back from the battlefield and buried in the Southern soil where he had lived. (A Confederate Marker has been placed on his grave.)

Anderson had three children before he was killed at age 36, a daughter named Martha Jane, who married Benton A. Turner; a son named James Darling who was married three times--first he to Mary Francis Brooks, who died in childbirth or shortly thereafter, but whose baby survived; secondly to Emma Mills by whom he had six children; and then after Emma died he married Rose Ann Edwards, by whom he had four children. Two of the children by his third wife died young. James Darling High is buried in Rosemont Cemetery in Union county, S.C. where he lived during the latter part of his life.

The third child of Anderson High and Elizabeth Allen was David Joshua High, known as "Dee." It is from the Dee that I descend.

David Joshua High, b. 9 Aug 1859 d. 21 Feb 1889 (age 29)

Dee married Jennie Florence Mills (Jennie is called "Jane" when she was four by the census taker, but that seems to be an error. She never called herself anything but Jennie). Both Jennie's mother and father died in November of 1869 of pneumonia and they are buried in Wadesboro, N.C. Jennie was raised from age 4 by her maternal grandfather, John R. Barber, who was a widower when he took Jennie and her sisters in.

Dee and Jennie lived in an area of Anson county known as Burnsville where the Highs had lived since the 1780's. Dee died of pneumonia at an early age and left his widow with four sons, one actually born two months after Dee's death. Dee is not buried in the family cemetery for some reason, but is buried at Red Hill Baptist Church which is about one mile from where he lived. Red Hill is a sister church of Rocky River Baptist where Dee was actually a member. Rocky River Baptist did not have a cemetery, but I have always wondered why he was not buried in the family cemetery with his father, grandfather and great grandfather who were buried only 1,000 yards from where Dee died, rather than in a church yard. Dee's death is mentioned in the History of The Rocky River Baptist Church and he is referred to as "Brother High" so maybe he was such a strong church member he wanted to be buried in a church yard.

The four sons of Dee High and Jennie Mills, in order are; Marcus Lywn (Mark printed out his middle name very carefully and signed it when he was applying for Social Security and he wrote "Lywn"); Wilbur Theodore, Arthur Earl, and Dlay Blake. I descend from Wilbur Theodore High.

Wilbur Theodore High, b.15 Nov 1884 d.5 Jul 1916 (age 36)

Wilbur High came from North Carolina to Columbia, S.C. in 1895 when he was only eleven years old. He came with his widowed mother and his brothers Mark and Arthur. Feeling that three children were all she could take care of at the time, Jennie left her youngest son in the care of her husband's sister, Martha High Turner. It is not known exactly why Jennie picked Columbia to come to, but it may have been because she had some family in Columbia, a first cousin who lived there, a lady who was also from Wadesboro, N.C. and who was married to a Kelly.

Wilbur married Cora Amanda Ellisor who was born in the Dutch Fork area of Richland county and they had four children. One died as an infant and one, Clarence High, died when he was 21. Wilbur and Cora's two remaining children were Flonnie Mae who married Charles Christmus and Lake Erie High who married Gussie Mae Redd who was from Aiken county, S.C.

When Cora was pregnant with her fourth child, both her mother and her mother-in-law were living in the house with her. It is said as the day neared when these two ladies would again be grandmothers they would argue about what to name the new child. Both grandmothers favored the family names of their respective side of the family. As the arguments grew longer and hotter, Wilbur grew tired of hearing it. So, one night at the family dinner table, as the arguments started up again, Wilbur hit his fist on the table rather hard thereby getting everybody's undivided attention, then he leaned way back in his chair and, over his shoulder, he put his finger on a large map of the United States that was on the wall. "What's my finger on," he asked. "Lake Erie" was the reply. "Well," he said, "that's it. That's going to be the new baby's name and I don't want to hear any more arguing about it." Which is how the fourth child, a boy, came to be named Lake Erie High.

Wilbur died at age 36 from tuberculosis and is buried in Elmwood cemetery in Columbia, S.C. It is from Lake Erie that I descend.

Lake Erie High, b. 30 Mar 1910 d. 19 Dec 1989 (age 79)

Erie High (as he was called) lived almost all of his life in South Carolina, except for a few years during World War II when he served in the Coast Guard Reserve in Jacksonville, Florida. Due to an injury (a broken back) he was rejected for regular military service, but the Coast Guard Reserve would take him so he joined as a seaman. He rose to the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

Erie married Gussie Mae Redd who was from Aiken county, S.C. They met when she was in nursing school in Columbia, S.C. Erie and Gussie had three children, but one died as an infant. Their descendants are listed along with the descendants of Wilbur High. Erie is buried in Elmwood cemetery in Columbia, S.C.

Wilbur Theodore High (15 Nov 1884-5 Jul 1916) m.
Cora Amanda Ellisor (of S.C.)

- A. Clarence High (died unmarried)
- B. Flonnie Mae High m. Charles Leroy Christmus
 - 1. Merrie Guindell Christmus m. Raymond Maxie Bernard
- C. Lake Erie High m. Gussie Mae Redd
 - 1. Helen Kay High m. James Lowe Ratledge
 - John Garnier
 - Joe Douglas Sutton
 - a. Michael Young Ratledge m. Donna Lee Romine
 - b. Donna Kay Ratledge m. Gary Waggoner
 - Tony Snef
 - c. Kathryn Elizabeth Ratledge m. Bruce See
 - Marvin Henderson
 - aa. Jenifer Marie Henderson
 - bb. Zackery John Mathiew Henderson
 - 2. Lake Erie High, Jr. m. Kathryn Isable Scott
 - Helen Margot Timberlake
 - a. Courtenay Yongue High
 - b. Lake Erie High, III
 - c. Isabel Taylor High



Beginning July 7, 1991, the Camden Archives and Museum will be open from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm each FIRST SUNDAY of the month.

The good people in Camden who are volunteering their time have announced this as a trial; if you use these facilities, then they will be open from now on.

For quite some while there have been numerous request for the Camden Archives to open on the weekend, now those request have been answered. Many of the people in our Chapter, as well as across the state, have roots in the Kershaw-Lanacaster area so now is

the chance to do some research and browse through the extensive genealogical collection housed in Camden. And don't forget to check their growing library of published genealogies to see if someone has already published a book on any of your lines.



Two Helpful Techniques Gleaned From Other Societies

In the lower left hand corner of most deeds you will find signatures of two to four witnesses. The first one is always from the husband's side. The next witness signature is almost always from the wife's side. This witness was to protect her 1/3 dower right under the law. This can be a great clue to the wife's maiden name.

(From the St. Louis Genealogical Society
Newsletter, March, 1991)

Scotland, says the book By Land and By Sea, developed a system for naming children. While both the system and its application varied, it was common to follow this pattern:

Eldest son	for the	paternal grandfather
Second son	for the	maternal grandfather
Third son	for the	father
Eldest daughter	for the	maternal grandmother
Second daughter	for the	paternal grandmother
Third daughter	for the	mother

If your ancestor line is Scottish and you can't figure out which Hugh or John or Alexander is your next ancestor back, this system might give you a clue as to which one to work on first.

Exceptions to the system abound. Would a third son, named for his father, give the name they share to his first son, or would he reserve it for his third son? Consider as well the confusion in naming twins. In the case of stillbirth, the next child of the same gender usually received the name of the stillborn child.

This system was not an absolute system but the tradition provides some guidance and it also helps explain why there is often such a confusing and exasperating repetition of given names among generations and family branches.

(Adapted from the Montgomery Clan Newsletter,
Vol. X, No. 4, Spring, 1991)

GOOD WORK

Since the founding of the Fairfield Genealogical Society Chapter in 1987 we have been blessed with good workers who have all done their part. None, however, have been as faithful as George and Pauline Lauderdale who have missed only one meeting in all that time. Also, one, or both, of the Laurerdales have served as an officer during all of that period.

During that same period, Mary Rice McMaster has also served in several offices, always doing a good job and always there when she can be. Mary Rice has only missed three meetings--twice as she nursed her brother and once when she was hospitalized.

Thank you George and Pauline Lauderdale and Mary Rice McMaster.

Are You An Active Member?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed,
or are you just contented that your name is on the list?

Do you attend our meetings, and mingle with the flock,
or do you meet in private and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along,
or are you satisfied to be the kind who "just belong?"

Do you work on our committees to see there is no trick,
or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?

So come to meetings often, and help with hand and heart,
don't just be a member, but take an active part.

Think this over, members, you know what's right from wrong
are you an active member, or do you "just belong?"

ORDER YOUR FAIRFIELD CEMETERY BOOKS TODAY

Please send me:

_____ Volume 1, Fairfield Cemetery Book

This book contains a listing of the graves in the church cemeteries in the western half of Fairfield county. It contains over 275 pages and is soft bound. The book is alphabetical by name by church and the general index is alphabetical by name.

_____ Volume 2, Fairfield Cemetery Book

This book contains a listing of the graves in the church cemeteries in the eastern half of Fairfield county. It contains over 275 pages and is soft bound. The book is alphabetical by name by church and the general index is also alphabetical by name.

_____ Volume 3, Fairfield Cemetery Book

This book contains a listing of graves found in private cemeteries in the county. The book is alphabetical by name by cemetery and the general index is also alphabetical by name. It is soft bound and contains a listing of over 120 cemeteries.

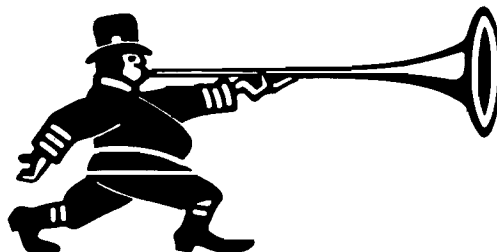
The cost of each volume is \$25, plus \$2.00 postage for a total of \$27.00.

Make your check payable to: Fairfield Genealogical Society

and mail it to: P.O. Box 696, Winnsboro, S.C. 29180

You may use this form, or you may simply write your request on your own stationary.

FAIRFIELD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
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Winnsboro, S.C. 29180





Two Changes You Should Note



The Fairfield Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society recently voted for two changes in their meetings. First of all, they voted not to meet during the summer months of June, July or August.

Since the Fairfield Chapter meets on the fourth Sunday of the month, it has always been the wishes of the members not to meet in December because the fourth Sunday meeting interferes with the Christmas holiday. The practice of not meeting at Christmas will continue; therefore, the Fairfield Chapter, starting in 1992, will meet only eight times each year--in January, February, March, April, May, September, October, and November.

Secondly, starting in 1992, the Chapter has voted to dispense with refreshments after the meeting. Everyone is urged to remain after the meetings and share a "no calorie" fellowship.