

Newsletter

Volume I, Fall Issue, 2008



“Preserving History and Enriching Communities of the Lower Richland Heritage Corridor”

P.O. Box 332 – Hopkins, SC 29061 – Website: www.sercom-sc.com – 803/788-7185

~ This Issue ~

- Swamp Fest '08
- Kingville / Kingsville, SC
- Harriet Barber House
- Upcoming Events
- Notes From The Board
- History Moments

We Welcome News

Community news and event announcements may be submitted to dsb1020@comcast.net. SERCO reserves publishing rights.

SWAMP FEST '08

Sixth Annual Swamp Fest: Friday and Saturday, October 3-4, 2008



The sixth annual Congaree Swamp Fest will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 3-4, 2008. On Friday evening, a gospel concert featuring Grammy-Nominated artists, the Canton Spirituals will be held in the Lower Richland High School auditorium. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m.

Admission for the concert is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. On Saturday, the weekend picks up steam and spreads to activities across three sites in the Lower Richland community. As proud members of the Lower Richland

Heritage Corridor, Swamp Fest activities will take place all day at Congaree National Park, Mount Moriah Baptist Church, and at the Harriet Barber House. Santee-Wateree Transit will provide free shuttles to carry visitors from site to site. Free activities will run throughout the day, offering opportunities for visitors to experience the area's rich cultural heritage. No matter the age or interest, there are activities for everyone. Bring your family and friends, and enjoy a day out in Richland County.

“Come Back To Kingville”

Planning for a community reunion . . .

Submitted by: Edith Cunningham

Kingville, SC was once a booming town with stores and industry and a railroad junction. Kingville boasted stores, eateries, and places of rest for many a weary traveler. The distinguished and nameless passed through in route to other destinations. Many families said goodbye to their loved ones at the Kingville railroad station as they boarded trains heading North during the Northern migration that led young and old to a better life and started the death knell for Kingville. Other families watched as their soldiers bid them farewell to defend America and become their greatest generation. Some of these same families were there as they unloaded flag draped coffins to be buried in local cemeteries marked with a stone reading, died in defense of their country.

The railroad took people all over America and beyond. According to Cole Wilson, a Kingville native, the train station at Kingville had a giant water tank for the steam engines to refill as they made their way to Lancaster, Charleston and Columbia. Six trains a day went from Charleston to Columbia and back. The ticket agent dispersed the tickets as many people from all walks of life took one of the trains that carried them to the city. Cotton and other commodities were sometimes shipped on these trains.

[Continued on Page -3]



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Notes From The Board...

The South East Rural Community Outreach Board conducted its scheduled monthly meeting on the 1st Wednesdays of November and December of 2008. Two items of interest from these meetings are reported herein:



Ms. Betsy Newman, Producer ~ SCETV

Dr. Larry Williams, Environmental Scientist

SERCO Meetings – First (1st) Wednesday, Monthly – Richland County Library – Garners Ferry Branch

~Upcoming Events~

- Oct 10th Carver-Lyon Elementary, Columbia, SC visits the Harriet Barber House – Hopkins, SC.
- Oct 14th St. Johns Episcopal Church Congaree, Dinner at the Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m., followed by a talk by SC Historian Walter Edgar. Reservations -776-9292
- Nov 2nd St. John’s Episcopal Church Congaree, Annual Homecoming Day and 150th Church Anniversary Culminating Services.
- Nov 8th Lower Richland Veterans’ Formation, Veterans’ Day Parade, starting at Back Swamp Road, 10:00 a.m. – ending Ceremony at Hopkins Park, 11:45 a.m.
- Nov 14th 3rd Annual Patients’ Choice Awards Banquet – Brookland Baptist Church Conference Center.
- Nov 21st Richland County Councilwoman Bernice Scott Appreciation Banquet -Columbia Convention Center.

History Moments



Where is this location ?

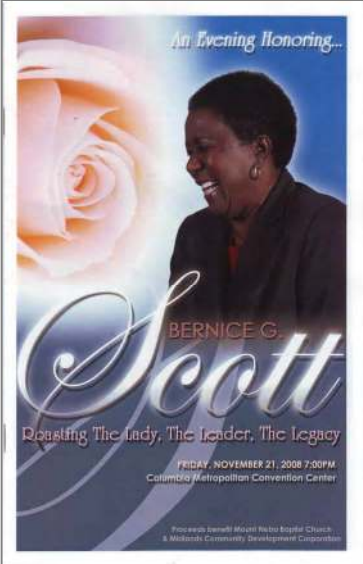


**Early African American Schools
St. Phillip’s ~ Eastover, SC**



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Roasting “The Lady, The Leader, The Legacy”



An evening honoring Richland County Councilwoman Bernice G. Scott was held on Friday, November 21, 2008 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. After 20 years of serving on the Richland County Council Masters of Ceremony were Senator Kay Paterson & Attorney Timothy Rogers.

The Honorable Bernice G. Scott served on the Richland County Council for 20 years. She was the first African American elected to Chair the Council

Councilwoman Scott named Local Official of the Year

Columbia, S.C. (September 15, 2008) –

The South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association (SCRPA) has named **Ms. Bernice Scott, Richland County Council, Local Official of the Year**. The award was announced during the 63rd annual South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association’s state-wide conference in Greenville, SC, Tuesday, September 9. Ms. Scott was chosen because of her loyalty and service to not only her constituents in District 10 but to all Richland County residents. Over the past 20 years, Ms. Scott has been passionately involved with many community organizations in Lower Richland County. She is a well-known supporter of quality recreation services for all of Richland County citizens and pivotal in bringing new recreation opportunities to the under-served areas of Lower Richland County, including the Recreation Commission’s Bluff Road Park, Hopkins Park and Eastover Park.

Ms. Scott was unable to attend the awards banquet due to County Council commitments but video taped an acceptance speech which was shown during the awards presentation. Ms. Scott remembers growing up playing recreational softball, “I know what recreation has done for me in my life. I played on every field in Richland County...I played a lot of softball in my life. I’m so proud of them (Recreation and Parks Commission) for nominating me.”

www.richlandonline.com

Welcome Ms. Rickie Good!

~New Executive Director of the Scarborough- Hamer Foundation, representing the Kensington Mansion

~New SERCO Board Member



Top Teens of the Midlands & Advisor
2008 Memorial Day Celebration

SERCO Projects . . .

Harriet Barber House - Hopkins, SC

The Lower Richland community does not have a location to showcase its rich history and cultural diversity. The Harriet Barber House will present the ideal place to serve as a museum to highlight the historical development of the Lower Richland community. After completion of the restoration, this historical property will benefit the public in several ways: First, it will serve as an educational center site to display the evidence of its historical development. It will also serve as a meeting site for small groups, a retreat center for the general public and a meeting place for the Hopkins High School Alumni Foundation with an archives room for recognition of early schools and educators from the Lower Richland community. Visitors to the Congaree National Park could take a tour of this historic site before or after they visit the park.



www.harrietbarberhouse.org

Lower Richland Heritage Corridor Calendar



www.kensingtonmansion.org

In an effort to bring more attention to the Lower Richland Community, the calendar features pictures of twelve of the historical sites in this area. It is our desire to share the diverse history and culture that make up this section of Richland County which became prominent after the first Lower Richland planters settled in this community as early as 1764. You will learn about the history of properties featured in these calendars.

2009 Calendar Coming Soon !

Lower Richland Heritage Corridor Visitor Guide

SERCO will publish a "passport-style" booklet for distribution at visitor and cultural centers throughout the State, advertising the Lower Richland Heritage Corridor. The passport will include photos, a map, site histories and descriptions, and visitor information.



Lower Richland Heritage Corridor Visitor Signage

Plans include erecting signs along major roads leading into and through Lower Richland (Bluff Road, Garners Ferry Road) to direct visitors to communities and attractions in the area such as Hopkins, Eastover, and Congaree or raise their attention as they pass through Gadsden and Horrel Hill. Signs could also list business or attractions nearby.

Erect New and Repair Old Historical Markers

SERCO will partner with the South Carolina Department of Archives and History and local property owners to identify potential sites for new South Carolina Historical Markers and those existing ones in need of cleaning or repair.

Scenes from...

SWAMP FEST '08



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Congaree National Park
Mascot Greets Visitors



Terrance Young

Performs

Friday Night Concert

Lower Richland High School Auditorium



Hay Ride Tour
Congaree Swamp



Benedict College Drumline



Darrell McFadden & The Disciples

Scenes from...

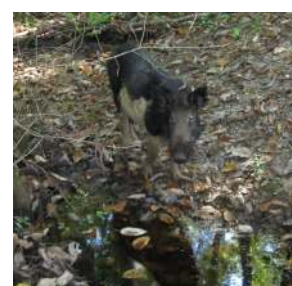
SWAMP FEST '08



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Egbe Killamanjaro African Drumming and Dance Group Perform - Harriet Barber House



Nature at the Congaree National Park



The Madison Bumblebees
Winsboro, SC



Park Fire Safety Demo



Midlands Student (K-8) Art Contest
Winners & Honorable Mentions



Tribute to Teaching Artists
Ms. Josie Brightstone
Harriet Barber House - Hopkins, SC