



Newsletter

Summer – Fall 2010 Issue

"Preserving History and Enriching Communities of the Lower Richland Heritage Corridor"
 P.O. Box 332 – Hopkins, SC 29061 – Website: www.serco-sc.org – 803/788-7185 Non-Profit

~ Upcoming Events ~

- Sept 10-11 Girls of Power Conference
- October 1-2: SwampFest
- October 8-10: Kingville Reunion
- October 16: Harvest Market – (LR Farmers Market)
- Nov. 6: LR Veterans Day Parade and Celebration
- Nov. 13: Low Country Seafood Feast Fundraiser
- Dec. 4: Victorian Christmas at Kensington
- Dec. 11: Communities Parade & Holiday Festival in Eastover
- Dec. 14: Holiday Taste and Tour

~ In This Issue ~

- 8th Annual Congaree SwampFest
- Ashley Norris -WACH Fox News Visits Harriet Barber House
- Boy Scouts Visit Harriet Barber House
- Council of Village Elders – RC Conservation Commission Project
- Cousins Co-Author: African Americans of Lower Richland County
- Expressive Arts Camp II
- Friends of Congaree Boat Trip
- Goodwyn Cemetery Restoration Project Meetings - Dr. B. J. Donaldson & Dr. V. Gerald
- Lower Richland Sweet Potato Festival
- Lower Richland Writing Camp
- Siloam School Reunion & Horrell Hill Parade
- Strong Threads III
- Teachers- Interactive Audio-visual Resources Workshop
- Zion Baptist & St. John Baptist Church Seniors Visit Harriet Barber House

8th Annual

Congaree SwampFest



Great Fun, Food & Entertainment!

Saturday, Oct. 2nd ~ 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM



Two Locations - Hopkins, SC

Festival Grounds
Old Mount Meulah
1000 Old Bluff Road

Congaree National Park
100 National Park Drive
Old Bluff Road

Further Info: www.congareeswampfest.com or (803) 457-0901

Sponsored by South East Rural Community Outreach (SERCO) & Richland County Hospitality Tax Grant

Taste SERCO's World Famous...

Swamp Juice

We Welcome News: Please send community announcements and news items to SERCO by U.S. mail ~ to the attention of D.S. Brooks, PO Box 332, Hopkins, SC 29061 or e-mail: sercoevents@gmail.com. SERCO reserves publishing rights.



See us on Facebook: sercoevents



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Barbeque - Blues & Jazz

Mr. Drink Small
Second Nature of Camden, SC
Ms. Panessia Ruff
Terrence Young & The Finesse Band

Friday, October 1, 2010 ~ 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Historic Harriet Barber House

116 Barberville Loop - Hopkins, SC
(Off Lower Richland Boulevard)

Advance tickets: \$15.00 (\$20.00 day of event)

Proceeds to Benefit the Educational Component of SERCO

Includes: Admission ~ Entertainment ~ Food
Cash Bar – Please Drink Responsibly

Further Info: www.congareewampfest.com or (803) 457-0901

Sponsored by South East Rural Community Outreach (SERCO) &
Richland County Hospitality Tax Grant

Congaree National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Announcing 8th Annual Swampfest! Art Contest

Winning art will be displayed at Swampfest!
Saturday October 2, 2010
Contest open to all students from K-8,
who attend schools in the Midlands.

Art category: Realistic art depicting animal or plant species found within Congaree National Park

Art Medium: pencils, ink, markers, watercolors, tempera paint, pastels, or crayons

Entry Rules: Art must contain student name, grade level, school name, phone number, and name of teacher. Attach this information to back of artwork.

Prizes: \$50 cash prize to winners in each grade level

Art must be received at Congaree National Park by Monday September 20, 2010

Contact: Ranger Kathleen O'Grady 803-776-4396

Sponsors: Southeast Rural Community Outreach
Congaree National Park



Friends of the Congaree Tuesday - April 20th

Dr. John Grego, Friends of Congaree Swamp Board President, is pictured here with SERCO's Marie Barber Adams and other board members onboard the Congaree National Park's interpretive boat. The group took a boat ride from the 601 boat ramp up the Congaree River during the spring.

The primary mission of Friends of Congaree Swamp is to increase recognition, public awareness and appreciation of Congaree National Park as a resource of local, state, national and international significance. Friends of Congaree invite you to become active participants and stewards of our nation's newest national park in the Lower Richland community!

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Interactive Audio-visual Resources Workshop April 29th

Classroom teachers from Richland School District One in Columbia and from Augusta, GA participated in the workshop created by Veronica Primus Thomas. Utilizing the historical setting of the Harriet Barber House, the participants created lessons and programs designed for students in grades one through six. The workshop and follow up session were made possible with a grant from the Richland County Conservation Commission.

Ashley Norris
WACH Fox News

May 6th



Ashley Norris is lead anchor for Good Day Columbia on the WACH Fox 57. In May, Norris visited the Harriet Barber House to create a news story for the morning program about hidden treasures in our area. She reports that there are numerous historical sites in the midlands that give people a glimpse of the past. Norris calls the Harriet Barber House a symbol of courage, endurance and hard work. The entire broadcast featuring her interview with Marie Barber Adams can be seen by clicking the link on www.harrietbarberhouse.org.



The annual Lower Richland Sweet Potato Festival was held in April at the Hopkins Park. SERCO provided partial funding through a Richland County Hospitality Tax Grant.

Historic Siloam School Class Reunion & Horrell Hill Community Day May 28-29

The Siloam School Class Reunion was held at the Tronco Medallion Center. The evening's program consisted of greetings from elected officials and other local personalities. A plaque bearing the names of early teachers was unveiled; it will hang in the old Siloam School. Also, the Horrell Hill Community Day Event followed on Saturday, beginning with a parade from Horrell Hill Elementary School to the New Light Beulah Baptist Church.

Expressive Arts Camp – II July 5-8



Expressive Arts Camp

STAFF MEETING DAY 2010

At the Historic Harriet Barber House



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Boy Scouts Visit

March 20th

Wendell Wright Walden, Scout Reach Executive for the Indian Water Council, brought boy scouts from several midlands troops to the Harriet Barber House in March. The scouts were the first group to use the newly erected Outdoor Classroom.



SERCO volunteer Dorothy Adams greets a group of scouts and troop leader. Dorothy returned home to Columbia after retiring from Pacific Bell in Los Angeles.



Veronica Primus Thomas, a Richland District One teacher and SERCO volunteer, welcomed groups of boy scouts into the historic house for a tour.



Retired Postal worker and army veteran James Jackson demonstrates the process of potato banking for scouts, parents and scout leaders.



African American Inventors were on display at the new outdoor classroom facility. Retired Richland One educator Audrey Smalls provided hands on activities for each group of boy scouts.



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Richland County Supports Communities with Conservation Grants

Nature Trail for Ecological Education



Neal Ecological Nature Trail

To Schedule Tours - For Further Info

Council of Village Elders

covehopkins@gmail.com

Goodwyn Cemetery Preservation Project

February



Technical meetings and site visits to Goodwyn Cemetery were held with Dr. Bobby J. Donaldson, Principal - USC Preston College and Associate Professor, USC History Department and Dr. Veronica Gerald, Professor of English at Coastal Carolina University and Gullah Geechee Heritage Commissioner. SERCO's project of documenting and restoring the Goodwyn Cemetery is made possible through a grant from the Richland County Conservation Committee.

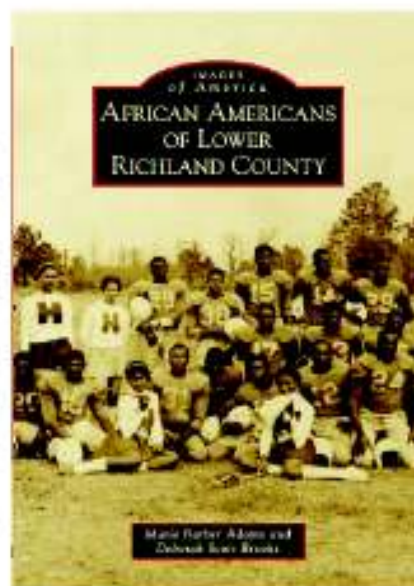
African Americans of Lower Richland County

Arcadia Press

SERCO Board Members Are Co-Authors

Marie Barber Adams and Deborah Scott Brooks are co-authors of the soon-to-be published book, African Americans of Lower Richland County. In the pictographic book, the South Carolina natives share their own beloved rich heritage of handed down stories and extensive hours of research, much of which was gathered through long miles of driving and visiting persons throughout Lower Richland. Adams and Brooks provide traces of the migratory trail of African American families starting in Kingville and moving through Gadsden, Congaree/ Weston, Hopkins and Eastover. The authors capture some of the mysteries, heartbreak and accomplishments of featured persons and families. Arcadia Publishing is due to release the book on September 20th.

Persons interested in purchasing a copy may contact marieadams@att.net or dsb1020@sc.rr.com.





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STRONG THREADS

The ties that bind us together, keep us together!



"OUR HERITAGE OF HEALING HARVESTS"

The third annual celebration of African-American history and culture - STRONG THREADS III - was held at the historic Harriet Barber House Saturday, February 20, 2010. This year's theme was "Our Heritage of Healing Harvests". Presenters included organizations that promote healthy lifestyles, nutritious cooking and natural healing remedies.

Dr. Veronica Gerald, The Ultimate Gullah was the featured presenter. Veronica Davis Gerald is a Professor of English at Coastal Carolina University, *Gullah Geechee Heritage Commissioner* and author of *The Ultimate Gullah Cookbook*. She has received numerous awards including the SC Governors Award in Humanities, the Distinguished Teaching Award at Coastal Carolina University and The Jean Laney Folk Heritage Award. She is considered a foremost scholar on Gullah history, culture and the SC Low Country. She is a much sought after lecturer and scholar appearing on C-Span, CNN and National Geographic. A joyful celebration of heritage, and included:

- Regina Skeeters, gospel recording artist
- The Phyllis Wheatley Youth Repertory Theater - Greenville, SC
- Abatsu African Drumming and healing Yoga session
- Oriana Rhema Productions in association with the Henderson- Davis Players
of South Carolina State University
- Dr. Robin Coletrain, poetess, author
- Shaelen Calhoun- reggae artist
- The Black Inventors Museum
- Artist Village-Keith Tolen, Christy Aiken, Valencia Goodwin
- Kiddie Fun Park /Giant Gaming Screens
- Workshops by Clemson Extension Service
- Diabetic and prostate screenings by Palmetto Health
- Rev. Dr. Neal Jones presented a special lecture on the Civil Rights Movement
- Jewelry making with jeweler, Betty Hunter

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Lower Richland Writing Academy

August 5-9



The Lower Richland Writing Academy' purpose was to provide students with additional assistance during the summer to practice writing skills. Statistics show that during the summer months, if students are not engaged in educational activities, they will experience learning losses. The program targeted students from Gadsden, Hopkins and Webber Elementary Schools and was held at the Harriet Barber House, Instructors were Ms. Kimberly Howard and Lashaunda Young. Sabrina Young and Mary B. Kirkland provided instructional support. The students will present their writing projects to parents and others on December 11th.



Zion Baptist Church Seniors Visit
March 10th



St. John Baptist Church Seniors Visit
June 24th

Senior Citizens of Zion Baptist Church, Columbia, visited the Harriet Barber House March 10th. The guests enjoyed storyteller Rev. Joe English of Lexington, a retired school administrator. The seniors from St. John Baptist Church of Hopkins were entertained by Mrs. Ruth Butler Sims, retired librarian from Richland School District one, when they visited the historic house June 24th.



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Join Us . . . The mission of SERCO is to create partnerships within the Lower Richland Community to provide charitable, educational and scientific programs to strengthen and expand the capacity of the community for a better quality of life for its residents.

SERCO invites you to become a part of the outreach movement by supporting our Lower Richland Heritage Corridor events and programs throughout the year:

SOUTH EAST RURAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEMBERSHIP FORM

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES:

\$20 INDIVIDUAL \$40 FAMILY \$75 ADVOCATE \$100 PARTNER \$500 PATRON

ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES & CORPORATIONS:

\$1,000 BENEFACTOR \$2,000 CORPORATE SPONSOR

SUBMIT INFORMATION:

NAME _____

ADDRESS : _____

HOME PHONE: (_____) _____

WORK PHONE: (_____) _____

FAX : _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Mail completed form and check to:

South East Rural Community Outreach
Post Office Box 332
Hopkins, SC 29061

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