



For new residents of Clemson, Fair Play, Liberty, Mountain Rest, Salem, Seneca, Six Mile, Walhalla, Westminster and West Union, South Carolina
Meet people, make new friends, learn about the area, get involved in the community.

February President's Message

It's hard to believe it's February; it seems like New Year's Day just ended. 2011 has started off with a wintery blast. We had the opportunity to experience the "great snow of 2011." A touch of winter is a beautiful reminder of the 4 seasons we experience in the Upstate. It also reminds us of one of the many reasons for relocating here. Thankfully, the snow is gone almost as quickly as it comes. Spring is just around the corner.

Our January meeting was dedicated to volunteerism. Giving back to this community through your volunteer efforts is another way to learn more about our new home and the people who live here, while helping those in need. We want to sincerely thank those individuals who are currently volunteering. We also want to challenge each activity group to reach beyond social activities and find an organization to help on a regular basis. Our activity group volunteers monthly at the Golden Corner Food Pantry. Volunteering at the Golden Corner Food Pantry provides us with another opportunity to enjoy each other's company and help the community at the same time.

Time feels like it is moving faster each year for us. It seems like just yesterday when the outgoing Presidents handed us the gavel to begin the 2010-2011 Newcomer Year. Fast forward and it is time to assemble a committee to begin the process of recommending a new

slate of officers to the Club. Volunteering for the Nominating Committee is an excellent way to help the Club continue its legacy and to have a hand in selecting its new leadership. We still have 2 positions remaining for this short term commitment. We will present the names of those serving on the Nominating Committee at the February 1st General Meeting. We would like to have members from the newest class, 2012-2013, join us. We ask that each of you give serious consideration to this short term opportunity and take part in planning the future of this organization. Please let us know if you would like to serve on this committee.

The Nominating Committee will look for volunteers to serve as officers and committee chairpersons. The Newcomer Club will begin its 40th year this year. The Club continues to be successful because members like you step forward to become its leaders. Being part of the leadership team is a great way to serve new residents and the community. Think about being part of the new 2011-2012 team.

As a closing thought, Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Don't forget to do something special for those who are special to you!!

Jim and Dianne

Meet New People

Spring Fling
SAVE THE DATE

The final meeting of the Newcomer Club season will be Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at the **BALENGER HOME** in Seneca. Look for details at an upcoming meeting.

Blue Ridge
Arts Center

What: Art Exhibit Opening Reception
Where: Blue Ridge Arts Center (BRAC)
111 E. 2nd St.
Seneca, SC
When: Friday, Jan. 21 5:30pm - 8:30pm (arrive early for wine and cheese)
Who: All Lovers of Art (or wine and cheese)
This is a reception to celebrate the opening of an outstanding exhibit of local artists. This exhibition will run through March 9.

Writers Ink

Residents interested in sharing their creative writing - fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or chapters of memoirs and novels - are welcome to join Writers Ink. The group meets twice a month from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. on the first and third Friday in member homes.

February meetings will be hosted on the 4th by Parky Dodge and on the 18th by Jan Villa.

Pictured are Writers Ink Members and spouses got together for a holiday dinner at The Club at Keowee Key on December 10, 2010.



For further information, contact Margret Nordquist at 944-6334, or send email to margret061836@bellsouth.net.

Make New Friends

Friends of the
Library - SALE ON
FEBRUARY 10

Winter got you down? Curl up in front of the fire or under a thick blanket and enter the glamorous world of celebrities. We have a plethora of celebrity biographies for sale at our monthly Friends of the Oconee County Library Book Sale. Every second Thursday of the month the FOL Book Sale is held in the basement of the Walhalla Library at 501 S.W. Broad Street. Not interested in celebrities, then look for your favorite author, cd's, dvd's paper backs, hard cover or magazines, all sold at bargain prices. Join us from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on February 10, 2011. All book sales benefit the Oconee County Libraries.

Adopt a Highway

You're invited to make a difference...
Is it possible to make a real, community wide, quality of life improvement with only about an hour of time invested? It certainly is! Four times a year, The Newcomer Adopt-a-Highway team descends on Sheep Farm Road and in about an hour works a miracle on its appearance. For more information/ to become a part of this solution, please contact Denise Doyle at tdoyle@bellsouth, or 864-944-2725.

Future Meeting
Programs

February - State Senator Thomas Alexander as our guest speaker. He will be giving an update on current issues and challenges facing our State Government. He is also interested in answering questions that come from the audience.

March - we will meet at the Walhalla Civic Auditorium at 7:00 pm. Tom Brosnan is putting together an evening of information and entertainment. A listing of some Walhalla restaurants will be made available for those wanting to have an evening meal out before the program.

April - Greg Lucas of the DNR will share with us an overview of the Jocassee Gorges. This is a pristine area of our country that is right in our back yard. This will be an opportunity to learn what's there, and how to enjoy it. In addition, we will be having a "surprise" program topic.

In May, it's the Spring Fling.

Learn About the Area

Foothills Chorale
May 1

"Those Wondrous Mystical
Isles"

3:00 PM, Sunday, May 1

Newton Hobson Chapel &
Fine Arts Center, Southern
Wesleyan University, Central,
South Carolina.

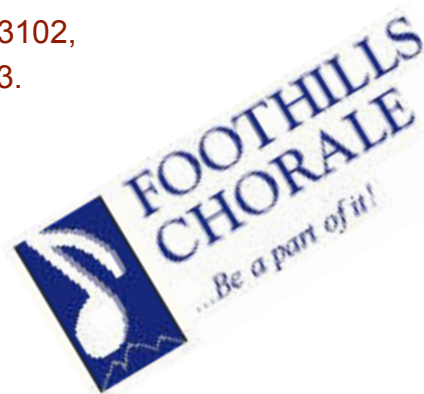
Our program in this lovely
auditorium includes beautiful
songs from the rich musical
culture of England, Ireland,
Scotland and Wales. Each
country has its own unique
identity and humor, and you
will love the music - whether it
is What Shall We Do With A
Drunken Sailor; The Celtic
Gloria; Galbally Farmer; Wi' A
Hundred Pipers or All
Through the Night - some you
will recognize, and others
may be a new experience, but
all you will enjoy!

Make sure you note the
date in your diary, (it is a great
Activities Group outing for
May) and it is not too early to
get your tickets: Adults, \$15
and Students \$6. Contact

Howard King 944-6565, or
any Foothills Chorale
member. No handling fee!
Please provide cash or check
payable to "Foothills Chorale"
or



By credit card via our
secure website:
www.foothillschorale.org, or
our toll-free number:
1-888-937-4642; or mail your
order and include \$2 for mail
and handling with your check
made out to "Foothills
Chorale", PO Box 33102,
Clemson, SC 29633.



Get Involved in the Community



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Clemson University

Because curiosity has no age limit!

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Clemson University will be hosting its Spring 2011 Kick-Off Event on January 28, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at St. Mark United Methodist Church in Seneca. Everyone welcome!



OLLI annual membership fee is \$15. Course and excursion fees vary. For information call OLLI at 864-656-6912 or visit our website at www.clemson.edu/OLLI.

Activity Groups

The activity groups continue to grow with new members joining each month. In January we had 7 couples/individuals join. The activity groups are going strong with a lot of socializing, volunteering, and having a great time. Some of the activities that have occurred during the past months are:

- ◆Butler Tour at the Biltmore and dinner at the Bistro
- ◆Bowling in Seneca and lunch at Copper River
- ◆Game night with drinks and hors d'oeuvres
- ◆DNA Seminar at Clemson and lunch at Pixie and Bill's
- ◆Ashtabula Tour at Christmas and dinner at the Islander Pub
- ◆Natalie MacMasters Concert at Clemson
- ◆A Ride on the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad
- ◆Clemson Apparel Research Tour
- ◆Volunteering at Our Daily Bread
- ◆Plans for Super Bowl Party

As you can see there's a lot going on with the activity groups. If you haven't joined one yet notify Barb Bowman or Judy Hopp to get in on the fun.

Get Involved in the Community

Oconee County Habitat for Humanity

Construction at 503 Sunrise Drive in Seneca has been completed. The house built in partnership with Schneider Electric will be dedicated this month.

2011 Construction Plans. Tentative plans to start 2 modular homes at N. Perkins Road in Seneca in mid-February, 2 homes at Mt. Nebo in Seneca and rehab 2 homes in Fair Play,

Volunteers interested in future site-built construction work can contact Mary Sue Plague at 944-6888 or send email to c-msplague@earthlink.net

Volunteers for Modular Home Set-Up crew, call or email Bill Banholzer (864) 888-2127, williambanholzer221@earthlink.net.

Landscaping

Volunteers interested in future garden landscaping projects can call Lee Jackson at (864) 784-0263, or email scleejackson@gmail.com.

Other Volunteer Opportunities:

Construction Managers for site-built homes, certified electrician, plumbers, and skilled carpenters. Call or email Shepherd Chuites, (864) 647-8271, sjchuites@yahoo.com.

Volunteers for pick-up truck crew. Call the Resale Store at (864) 888-2118.

Co-Chair for Public Awareness and/or Digital Photo Library Coordinator. Call Margret Nordquist (864) 944-6334, ochfh07@bellsouth.net.

Resale Store

130 Bountyland Road,
Seneca
(864) 888-2118

Store hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon.

The store needs and appreciates donations of just about everything, especially furniture and appliances. Dishes, bric-a-brac, paintings, jewelry, draperies, linens, bedspreads, books, games, garden items, tools, toys etc. are also welcome. Items can

be dropped off at Receiving behind the Resale Store during store hours.

For pick-up of donated furniture, cabinets, countertops, appliances, and bathroom fixtures call (864) 888-2118. Pick-ups are available in Oconee and Pickens Counties year-round. Used cars, trucks, boats and boat trailers in working condition are also accepted.

OCHFH offers help to homeowners or heirs of sold homes clearing the house of all unwanted furniture and/or furnishings. Call (864) 888-2118 for further information. All donations are tax deductible and are helping build more homes for needy families in Oconee County.

Jazz Concert

To order individual or group tickets for Ed Polcer's All Stars benefit concert at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday April 14, 2011 in the Walhalla Civic Auditorium send check made out to OCHFH, plus SASE to: Wes Koch, 1318 Stillwater Dr., Seneca, SC 29672 or email: Wes1koch@gmail.com

Ticket Price \$20 Admit one

Newcomer Club Contacts

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