



Winter  
Issue  
2024



**Hampton County Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 152**

**Hampton, SC 29924**

## HCHS Winter Program—Feb. 15, 2024—7 PM

### Hampton Fire Station Meeting Room

**Dr. Tim Drake, Jr. Presenter**

Prior to the American Revolution the Indian Land (until 1715) of Beaufort District was beginning to develop from a period of cattlemen and roaming cattle into a more settled planting and livestock economy. The Treaty of Augusta in 1763 had made settlers less fearful of moving into the upper part of the area then called Prince William Parish (1745) and St. Peters Parish (1746). From the 1760's until the American Revolution there were many grants given to settlers from other parts of South Carolina and North Carolina. In many ways the cattlemen and settlers related to the people of the backcountry of South Carolina.

The February 15th program is titled “The Social and Religious Structure of the South Carolina and Georgia Backcountry before the American Revolution.” These settlements were comprised primarily of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, French Huguenots, Welsh Quakers, English Baptist, and German Lutherans, none of whom were fond of the wealthy Anglicans of the Lowcountry. Life in the backcountry was hard and uncertain requiring survival and fighting skills.

The talk presented by Dr. Tim Drake, Jr. will not focus on the Revolutionary War or its individual battles, but instead on the lifestyle and culture of a people that differed in many ways from what was typical in the Lowcountry or coastal settlements.

Dr. Tim Drake, Jr. grew up in Boiling Springs (Spartanburg County) where many of his mother's ancestors migrated from Virginia in the 1750-1760's. He developed a passion for history, archeology, anthropology, and historic preservation at an early age and it became his avocation.

Dr. Drake earned his BS, MS, and PhD from Clemson University. He is employed by Clemson University currently serving as State Entomologist and as Assistant Director in the Division of Regulatory and Public Service Programs.

Many of our members will remember programs on burial traditions that Dr. Drake presented. He has never failed to educate and entertain his listener.

For those interested in the financial planning of the Hampton County Historical Society and the business of running the Society, come at 6:00 PM for the Society's yearly general meeting. This is an opportunity for members to voice their concerns and present questions

## **Projectile Point Reveals Prehistoric Information**

**By Dan Connelly**

Our guest speaker at our annual luncheon in November was Dr. Christopher Moore who is an archeologist with the South Carolina Institute of Archeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina. He reported on his most recent research project which directly involved the Johnny Causey Native American Artifact Collection and is truly landmark.

With the landowner's permission, Johnny spent a lifetime collecting artifacts and as he was in the twilight of his years, he donated his entire collection to the Hampton County Historical Museum. He saved everything associated with Native Americans. His collections represents every geological period from the Clovis period (12,800 years ago) through the Woodland (3000-800 BP). Most importantly, his collection was from only a 20 mile radius of his home in Furman, South Carolina. The collection is truly one of a kind.

Dr. Moore's research was an effort to determine if large Ice Age animals such as the Woolly Mastodon and horses existed in the Southeast prior to their extinction approximately 11,000 years ago. Clovis points and tools associated with butchering and scavenging these animals have been found at archeological sites in the west and southwest. Southeastern soils are acidic and only the tools associated with taking these animals have survived.

As Native Americans points and tools were constructed, microscopic cracks and fissures developed as well as when the points impacted bones of targeted animals. Microscopic blood and tissue proteins would become embedded in these fissures and remain for thousands of years, especially if below the surface.

A Clovis point from the Causey collection as well as Clovis age points and tools from Allendale, Lexington, Darlington and Williamsburg Counties contained blood protein residue from Woolly Mastodons.

Dr. Moore's research concluded that these large prehistoric animals existed in South Carolina just prior to their extinction and the Causey Collection played a major role in that research.

Johnny passed away Oct. 26, 2019, if only he had lived to realize that a Clovis point from his collection played such a major role in this landmark research, and this is only the beginning.

## **Little Known Facts**

**By Dan Connelly**

Have you ever wondered about the palmetto trees that are along SC Highway 63 (Walterboro Highway) as one leaves Hampton County headed toward Walterboro? The palmettos are located on both sides of the highway from the top of the hill as the roadway descends into the Salkehatchie River valley and to the edge of the hardwood bottomland. Originally the trees were placed at equal distance, but a number have been lost over the years.

Mrs. Henry Lightsey had the trees planted along the roadway. Palmettos were planted at the entry to Mr. Lightsey's cabin and the boathouse on Whippy Swamp as well as around the Lightsey homes in Crockettville.

The Lightsey property along Highway 63 has changed ownership over the years, but Mrs. Henry Lightsey's palmetto legacy still lives!

# Pictures—Luncheon 2023

