

SCGS 2018 Annual Meeting Speakers

Katherine Bolt Borges



Katherine Borges is the Co-Founder and Director of the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG), which promotes and educates about genetic genealogy to over 20,000 members in over 70 countries. She works to increase professional standards in the practice, research, and discussion of relevant issues in DNA testing, interpretation, and ethics. Katherine gives many presentations on genetic genealogy to groups across the United States, the United Kingdom and in Ireland. Katherine is past-Regent Turlock Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution and is Past-President of Captain James Davis Chapter, Colonial Dames of the 17th Century. Her grandfather, Lt. Comm. Joseph E. Bolt was a Laurens County native which gives her over 200 years of Laurens ancestry including FULLER, KENNEDY, and BARKSDALE among others. She has been married to her high-school sweetheart, Vince, for 26 years and they have two children, Joshua and Michaela. She currently resides in California.

<https://isogg.org/> - The International Society of Genetic Genealogy

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/laurenscc/about> - She is the Administrator for the Laurens DNA Project

Katherine will be presenting “Finding Your Southern DNA” on Friday, October 12, 2018 at 7PM at the Hampton Inn.

She will also present 2 sessions on Saturday, October 13, 2018. Topics will be announced later.

CHARLES B. BAXLEY



Charles is a 1974 graduate of the University of South Carolina with a degree in political science and a 1976 doctorate in law. He is a general practice lawyer and lives in Lugoff, South Carolina, where he has practiced law in the firm of Baxley, Pratt & Wells, P.A. for forty (40) years. He is married to Judy Carol Duncan of Greenville, South Carolina.

Charles is the Chairman of the Board of the Kershaw County Vocational Education Foundation, Inc. for thirty-five (35) years. He is a Master Tree

Farmer, past President of the Kershaw County Forest Landowners Association, and manages his family forestlands. He has served as President of the Kershaw County Historical Society and serves on that board.

Charles served for fifteen (15) years as Judge for the City of Camden, SC and taught business law as Adjunct Professor of Law. He served as an officer and member of the Executive Board of the Indian Waters Council, Boy Scouts of America. Charles is a past President of the Lugoff Optimist Club and the Kershaw County Bar Association. He served as a captain in the USAF Reserve and two (2) terms as Trustee and as the Chairman of the Kershaw County (SC) School Board.

He has received the Silver Beaver award from the Boy Scouts of America and the Order of the Palmetto from the State of South Carolina.

Charles' hobbies include history, travel, aviation, and woodworking. He is the editor and publisher of the on-line journal, *Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution*, and books on the Southern Campaigns, and gives battlefield tours and military staff rides. His latest article on Gen. Nathanael Greene in South Carolina's Lowcountry is featured in the winter 2017 edition of *Army History* magazine. He has organized: academic conferences on Revolutionary War topics; an archaeological exploration of the Hobkirk Hill battlefield; a field trip group known as the "Corps of Discovery" to take people to little known Revolutionary War sites in the South; and a Revolutionary War Roundtable for amateurs and professionals to discuss the War in the South. He is on the Board of the Historic Mapping Congress, was the Chairman of the Battle of Camden Preservation Project Advisory Council, and appeared in documentaries on the Revolutionary War in the South, the latest filmed by SC ETV for middle school instruction on the Revolutionary War in South Carolina.

He is currently editing the *Papers of Gen. Francis Marion* with David Neilan and working with the South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust to map 20 Revolutionary War battlefields in the Carolinas.

Lt. Col. Ed Forte, BA/MA, Lt. Col., USMC (Retired)

Mr. Edward Forte is originally a native of New Jersey but upon his professional retirement in 2016 has become a resident of Mt. Pleasant, SC. He is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickerson University (1974) and Villanova University (1997), having earned a BA and MA in American History respectively. Upon graduation in 1974, he was commissioned an officer in the USMC, subsequently serving on active duty for 23 years as a tank officer in a variety of command and or staff positions worldwide. Ed is a graduate of the USMC Expeditionary Warfare School, the USA Command and General Staff College and the Armed Forces Staff College. Upon his retirement from active duty in 1997, Ed continued to serve our Nation's young people by entering the profession of education as a teacher of AP US History, cross country/track and field coach and high school principal until his full retirement in 2016. Taking his love of the American

experience a step further, Ed has been an avid living history reenactor as an active member of the second SC and NJ Light Infantry of the Continental Line. Most recently, Ed has been a contributing member of the SC Battlefield Preservation Trust and the American Battlefield Trust's "Campaign 1776" project. The latter consisting of some likeminded patriot's with a sincere desire to help and preserve twenty Revolutionary War battlefields in the Carolinas for future generations to study and enjoy. Specifically, Ed was responsible to map and research the Battles of Musgrove Mill (August 1780) and the siege of Fort Watson (April 1781). Mr. Forte is married and has three daughters and three grandchildren. Semper Fidelis!

He will conduct a presentation and Tour of Musgrove Mill on Friday afternoon, October 12, 2018

In 1983, Victoria Norris accompanied her late husband, the First Chief of the PAIA Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation SC, Howard White Bull Norris, to the first meeting of the Piedmont American Indian Association. The tribe acquired recognition as a Tribe by the state of South Carolina in 2015; Victoria worked along Chief Norris to write and organize the information for the petition.

She has worked alongside her husband for the betterment of Native People. Over the years, Victoria has served on the tribal council as a member and treasurer for the tribe, Crosswinds newsletter editor, membership chair, and coordinator of the annual Pow Wow, the Elders' Gathering, the Young Cherokees, the Strong Beaver Kids' Camp, and the Kids' Day program for school students.

Chief Norris loved to tell the Cherokee stories. After the crossing over of her husband last year, she became a storyteller in his honor. She learned these Cherokee stories from Chief Norris. Through story telling the Cherokee People explained natural happenings, taught lessons, passed on traditions, and entertained young and old.

Sarah Jane Limehouse Armstrong, is a native of Charleston, SC. She lives on her Mother's 1800 Curry farm in Gray Court, SC. She was an educator for 34 years and received the Distinguished Alumna award from Winthrop University in Physical Education. Gov. C. Campbell presented her with the Order of the Palmetto in 1993. She is Vice President of the Gray Court Owings Historical Society and the Laurens District Genealogical Society and past board member of the Laurens County Museum. She is a member of several lineage societies and past regent of the Henry Laurens DAR Chapter.

She and her family gave the 1820 Riddle log cabin to the Joe Adair Center to encourage the teaching of South Carolina History.

She is a contributing writer to the " Discovering Laurens County History Books. "The 3 Volumes have over 1000 pages on Laurens County. She also compiled a History of Dials United Methodist Church 1808-2008.

She is co-founder of Pioneer Day in Gray Court. The living history event has attracted thousands of visitors over the past 15 years. She has a passion for locating petroglyphs and Native American artifacts.

She has traveled to England, Wales, Ireland and Germany researching her ancestors.