



MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

Volume XV: Number 3

May – June 2023

Recollections of the Ellore Trials

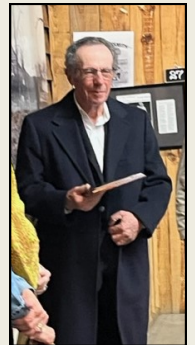


Racing enthusiasts and Ellore Trials' supporters gathered at the Museum to learn about the colorful history of horse racing in our community and to honor track owner, long-time trainer, and Trials' coordinator Franklin "Goree" Smith. On March 21 nearly 100 attendees were part of this special evening.



Howard Shuler opened the program by introducing the evening's speakers Irvin Shuler and Howard Shuler. Irvin Shuler was one of the Ellore Jaycees who helped start the Trials in 1963. He recalled events of the early years of horse racing in the area and how the Ellore Trials came into being. Irvin also recounted many amusing personal stories about the efforts to revive the track. The track was built in 1940 on a geological depression called a savannah or Carolina Bay. It had hosted races for 10 years until a ban on para-mutual betting closed the track. Races resumed in the early 60's. Howard Shuler, current President of the Ellore Trials Committee, shared recollections of the varied activities that became part of the Trials' appeal in later years and his vision of what the future may hold.

The Ellore Trials Committee presented Goree with a special plaque honoring his dedication and devotion over the years to the Trials and the community. For many years Goree has presented a check to local organizations who assisted in bringing together different elements of the Trials. Recipients included the Ellore Garden Club, Evergreen Garden Club, Mentor Book Club, the Pythians, Ellore Athletic Association, Lions Club, and Masons. Jaycee Faitsie Bair was recognized for having attended every Trial since 1963.



Special exhibits upstairs in the Museum treated attendees to a visual history of the Palmetto Racing Park and Ellore Trials' site, horses, trainers, jockeys and race activities. These ranged from a special area dedicated to the memory of Ellore native and Kentucky Derby winner Chris Antley to photos, posters, pictures, newspaper articles, a video presentation and other memorabilia. Included were photos of all the Miss Ellore Trials winners since the first in 1979, as well as many photos of "hosses runnin' over hosses," as often proclaimed by Color Announcer Bob Hill.

The Ellore Training Center presented the Museum with a silver engraved trophy cup that would have normally been awarded to one of the race winners. Known as the Covid Cup, one side is engraved with 2020, for the year that the Trials were canceled by the Governor. The cup is also engraved with 2022, the year the Trials resumed after Covid.

Special thanks go to Bill and Penny Summers for their donation of a historical scrapbook of early horse racing in the area, which is a wonderful addition to the Museum archives. Thanks also go to Logan's Pizza. The restaurant was open the entire evening to accommodate those who wished to dine there before or after the event.

Current Trials Committee President Howard Shuler and many in Ellore and surrounding communities are excitedly working hard to get the Ellore Trials races going again with the goal that they will resume in 2024.

Four Wives of the Founder

By Tom Livingston

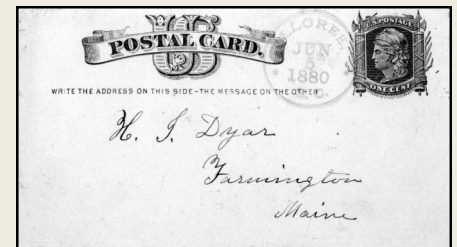
The old saying is that behind every successful person is a good partner, usually a spouse. Founder William J. Snider was a very successful man, but he needed four wives to help him get there.

Wife number one was Sarah Helen Rozier from Barnwell District. They were married in Barnwell on August 31, 1854 while Snider was still a resident of Charleston. He was 21 years old and she was 20, having been born on April 7, 1833. She had been educated in a boarding school in Edgefield when she was seventeen. Tragically less than a year after their marriage she died – June 8, 1855. She was buried in the Guess Family cemetery in Bamberg. Her death must have affected William greatly because he did not marry again for five years. When his next two wives died he remarried in less than one year.

Wife number two was Elizabeth (Lizzie) Esther Wells who was from Sumter. He met her through her brother, Samuel, who was a friend of William's when they both worked in Charleston. [Later Samuel worked for William in his Cross Roads Store and then bought a farm near Holly Hill and opened a store in what is now known as Wells Crossroads]. He and Lizzie were married in 1859 and they probably lived in Felderville because he was Postmaster in White Cane near Felderville. The 1960 Census proves that he and Lizzie lived with P.H. Felder in Felderville and that William was a merchant running Felder's Felderville store. Lizzie continued to live with the Felders during the war while her husband was in Richland County and later in the war in Virginia. In 1865 when word reached Felderville that her neighbor, David Shuler, had died in a POW camp in New York, she was among the first to visit his widow.

They moved to Ellore in 1866 and he opened his first crude store. In 1875 Lizzie and William adopted the son of a fellow Baptist minister (Rev. Hartley) whose wife had died. Earle Hartley was just a baby when they adopted him. He outlived both of his adoptive parents, but never married. Lizzie suggested the name for Ellore in the 1870's and that name was used for the community until the town was incorporated as Harlin City in 1886. She was an active member of the community as late as June 1880, but she passed away in 1881 before the town was formed. The museum has the original postcard that she wrote in 1880, a copy of which is included herein.

With a young boy to raise, William married his third wife, Wilhemina (Willie) Farr of Greenville. She had been educated at Greenville Female College and met William at the Baptist Convention in 1882. They became engaged in less than one week – she was 23, he was 51, and Earl was 7. Willie had serious health issues and required that her personal physician (Dr. Charles Davant) move to Ellore with her. William built a house next door to his home for Dr. Davant. That house still stands in Ellore but it has been moved about a block away from its original place. Willie bore William two children, a son W. Farr Snider in 1883. He died as an infant. Their daughter, Mary Louise Snider was born in 1884 but died in 1886, just one month after her mother, Willie. So 1886 was a terrible year in William's family life, but it was also the year that the town was founded.



June 8th 1880
I notice in Household
for June you have
Granite with garnets,
I have not rose quartz
but would like a specimen
of the granite very much,
If you wish any of the
following, Stalactites from
Ocala's Cave Fla, from
Cave Hall S.C. Pebbles
from Eutaw Springs S.C.
or from Silver Springs
Fla, or all of them I would
be pleased to send them if
you will send the specimen
of granite to Mrs W. J. Snider
Ellore
Orangeburg Co. S.C.



William married his fourth wife, Janie E. Holland, on September 27, 1887 in Williston. This marriage lasted ten years, until William's death in December 1897. Jane Snider was the executrix of his vast estate. His adopted son Earl lived until 1902 when he died of pneumonia at age 27. Jane Snider died in 1904. The house that William built in 1870 and that his last three wives lived in is described in a historical marker on Main Street in Ellore. The included photo shows the Snider House with Earl throwing a snowball at Jane and her sister. The photo is probably from the late 1890's. The direct family line of Founder W.J. Snider ended with Jane's death. However the town that he and his family built is a monument to his vision.



Midlands Gives! May 2nd. Please consider making an online donation to Ellore Heritage Museum on this day by going to MidlandsGives.com. Thank you very much.

Ellore and Eastern Orangeburg County History

Presented by Dr. Gene Atkinson

Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 7:00 pm at the Museum



Dr. Atkinson is a retired Orangeburg dentist and local historian. He has been recognized for his civic endeavors, his historical collections, and his contributions to dentistry. His interest in the history of his hometown of Orangeburg has led to five books on its history, three of which have been pictorial histories. Through the years Dr. Atkinson has been able to collect several thousand old pictures from Orangeburg's past. We are so excited to have Dr. Atkinson back to present this program. Hope to see you there.

**There is no charge for the program, but reservations are required.
Call 803-897-2225**



The Ellore Heritage Museum & Cultural Center, Inc. and
The Palmetto *Traverse* at Lake Marion Golf Course Present

GOLF CAMP for Youth

Ages: Boys & Girls entering Grades 2—12 in the fall

Date: July 24 — 26, 2023, Monday—Wednesday, 9:00 AM — Noon

\$ 40.00 per camper (Includes snacks, drinks, and lunch each day.)

Register soon. Limited space available.

Golf Camp will be held at the Palmetto *Traverse* at Lake Marion Golf Course in Santee, SC.

Parents are responsible for daily transportation to and from camp.

Golf clubs, putters, and golf balls will be provided. Or, Campers may bring their own. Snacks, water, and lunches each day are included. Please note below any food allergies. Campers will need to wear tennis shoes and collared shirts (like knit golf shirts).

On Wednesday at 11:00 AM, parents and family are welcome to join the Campers for a presentation of their golf skills and for lunch. Additional lunches are \$5.00 per person. Reservations are required. Sign up below for this special time.

2023 GOLF Camp Application

Child's Name: _____ Grade Entering in Fall: _____ Age _____

Parent's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____ **Food Allergies?** _____

Number of additional visitors for lunch on Wednesday: _____ **@\$5/person = \$** _____

*I give Ellore Heritage Museum permission to use photographs in promotional materials that may include my child. Yes ____ No ____ Parent's Signature: _____

***The museum will also have available the golf course's **General Photography Release** form to be signed.

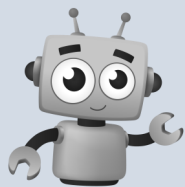
Applications must be received by July 14. Payment to accompany the application.

Total for Camper & Extra Lunches on Wednesday: \$ _____

Method of Payment: check / cash / credit card

Call: 803-897-2225 to sign up with credit card or

Mail application and check to: Ellore Heritage Museum, P.O. Box 54, Ellore, SC 29047



Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College is hosting . . .

Stem & Robotics Summer Camps

Location: Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

Grades 6—8 (Middle School) and Grades 9—12 (High School)

O-C Tech is holding 9 slots for the Ellore Heritage Museum — 3 slots in each of the following camps:

June 12 — 15 (Middle School) / June 19 — 22 (High School) / July 10 — 13 (Middle School)

Time: 9:00 AM — 3:00 PM / Cost: \$60.00 (Lunch and snacks included.)

To register, call the museum at 803-897-2225.

Space is limited. Deadline to register is May 15th!

Students will learn about all stages of the advanced manufacturing process including product design, robotics for assembly, transportation, distribution and logistics. Students will also be introduced to technologies including computer programming, mapping (cartography) and robotics.

2023 ART CAMP



A Painting Class Exploring Nature... Flowers, Fins, Feathers, and Fun!

Ages: Boys & Girls entering Grades 2—6 in the fall.

Date: June 19 — 21, 2023, Monday — Wednesday, 9:30 AM till Noon

\$35.00 per camper (Includes materials and snack each day)

Deadline to register is June 12th. Space is limited.

Camp will be held at the Ellore Heritage Museum, 2714 Cleveland St., Ellore

Parents are responsible for daily transportation to and from camp.



2023 ART CAMP APPLICATION

Child's Name: _____ Grade Entering in Fall: _____ Age: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____ **Food Allergies?** _____

*I give Ellore Heritage Museum permission to use photographs in promotional materials that may include my child. Yes ☐ No ☐ Parent's Signature: _____

Applications must be received by June 12. Payment to accompany the application.

Total: \$ _____ Method of Payment: check / cash / credit card

Call: 803-897-2225 to sign up with credit card or

Mail application and check to: Ellore Heritage Museum, P.O. Box 54, Ellore, SC 29047

ELLOREE HERITAGE MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership at the Ellore Heritage Museum & Cultural Center provides free admission and other special benefits to members. Please note that membership cards are non-transferable and guest passes are for one-time use only.

Please check a category of membership.

- ☐ **Individual \$25+**
 - ♦Full membership privileges for one adult
 - ♦Two guest passes
- ☐ **Family \$50+**
 - ♦Full membership privileges for two adults in the same household and their children 18 years old and younger
 - ♦Four guest passes
- ☐ **Collector's Club \$100+**
 - ♦Full membership privileges for two adults and free admission for four guests
 - ♦Four guest passes
- ☐ **Director's Guild \$250+**
 - ♦Full membership privileges for two adults and free admission for four guests
 - ♦One family membership to give as a gift
 - ♦Four guest passes
- ☐ **Historian's Roundtable \$500+**
 - ♦Full membership privileges for two adults and free admission for four guests
 - ♦Private tour upon request
 - ♦One family membership to give as gift
 - ♦Six guest passes
- ☐ **Trustee's Council \$1000+**
 - ♦Full membership privileges for two adults and free admission for four guests
 - ♦Private tour upon request
 - ♦Two family memberships to give as gifts
 - ♦One private use of the museum facility (limited to approved facility use activities)
 - ♦Eight guest passes

Name(s) _____

Mailing address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Date _____ (Membership is valid for 1 year from date of purchase)

Please send completed form with your check to: Ellore Heritage Museum & Cultural Center, Inc.

Post Office Box 54, Ellore, SC 29047

Memorials & Honors may be sent to:

Ellore Heritage Museum & Cultural Center, PO Box 54, Ellore SC 29047

Please include complete name and address of the person to whom the museum should send notification of your gift. Memorials and Honors may also be directed to the Museum's Endowment Fund. Please indicate on your check that the donation is for the Endowment Fund.

The museum is a non-profit organization legally chartered by the State of South Carolina and is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as defined by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. As such, your donation may be tax deductible.

March – April 2023 Contributions

Memberships

Individual

Edith Ann Brandenburg
Leslie Collins
Nell Felkel
Amy Frye
F. Lawton Irick
Linda B. Joyce
Gossie Heath Mathis

Family

Margaret Barnwell
Chuck & Susan Field
Wally & Hope Haigler
David L. Linard II
John & Meg McLaurin
Carl & Dawn McCoy
Martin & Nancy Priest
Irvin & Claire Shuler
Charles H. Williams

Collector's Club

Rhonda & Greg Adams
Lewis Boice
Curt Campbell
Mike & Bobbi Metz
Bill & Penny Summers
Anthony & Carolyn Williams

Director's Guild

Lee & Tamalyn Blackman
Chris & Rachel Worley

Memorials

Robin Hood

Christine Bickley
Karmen Kennerly
David, Myra, Mary, & Sara Ardis

Charles "Charlie" Hutto

Jim & Karen Roquemore

Honors

Bill Livingston

Virginia Vaughan

Blanche Stoudemire

Christine Bickley
Karmen Kennerly
David, Myra, Mary, & Sara Ardis

Donations

Ellore B n B
Orangeburg County
Town of Ellore

Recent Tours



Van Stickles led this Senior Group from Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Lexington on a tour in March. After the tour, they all enjoyed lunch at Logan's Pizza.



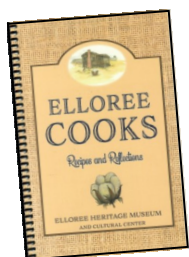
Owen Family from Georgia toured using the audio wands after their family reunion here in Ellore.

The Museum Welcomes Tour Groups

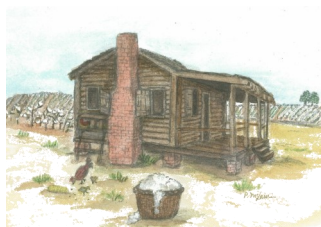
Church groups, families, schools, clubs, or a group of good friends all find a fun and very educational experience when they visit the museum. Take your loved ones on an enjoyable excursion into the past as you explore the history of Ellore. Individual audio wands are available featuring a professional announcer describing each exhibit in detail, many times with an unexpected splash of humor.

Group tours of ten or more have an option to set up for a Docent to lead their tour. The Docent dresses in period costume and is entertaining as he or she escorts the visitors from exhibit to exhibit. They custom fit your tour to meet your time-frame. Call the museum to book a tour for your special group.

803-897-2225



**SHOP
SNIDER'S
STORE**



Elloree Heritage Museum & Cultural Center

P.O. Box 54

Elloree, SC 29047

www.ElloreeMuseum.org

E-mail ElloreeMuseum@ntinet.com

Phone (803) 897-2225

NON-PROFIT
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BULK MAIL
PERMIT NO. 9000

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Gift Shop Manager

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Upcoming Events 2023

May 2: Program by Dr. Gene Atkinson

May 2: MIDLANDS GIVES

Please consider the museum on this day of giving.

Youth Art Camp: June 19-21

Youth Golf Camp: July 24-26

O-C Tech Stem & Robotics Summer Camps: See page 5

Museum Hours of Operation:

Wednesday – Saturday

10:00 am – 5:00 pm