

**ROSE-MARIE WILLIAMS
112 WOODLAND WAY
ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29620-1542
864-459-5079**

21 November 1996

The Platts Family History "How Did I Ever Get Myself Into This?" Committee will meet on **Saturday, November 30, at 9:30** in the morning in the Fellowship Hall of the Hampton United Methodist Church.

Our schedule will be the same as it has previously been: morning and early afternoon meetings with a lunch break. (Where two or three Platts are gathered together, there will be food.) If you can only come for the morning session, by all means do so—particularly if you have a report to make that can best be made in person.

Todd Platt has entered into his handy-dandy computer data base all the names and vital statistics we have sent him, all that he has himself dug up, and all that Betty Suber had in her computer. The print-out unfolds from Pretty Creek to Jackson Branch. He will brief us on what's been done and on what needs to be done.

Cousin Dr. Peebles has written the first of two essays he is writing to introduce chapters and generations. When you hear it read, you will have an idea of the tone of this book. We said from the beginning that we wanted to put into historical context the lives of the previous generations so that the present generation and the generations that follow will understand better both history and their family. Cousin Dr. P. has discovered our "voice" for us, the way of telling this story.

Yes!

Holbrook Platts has been working with maps and will present information on the scope of the land holdings and settlement of our forbears. It will now be up to others of us to fill in the details of his maps.

Bob Connelly, Virginia Hodge, and Carolyn Piekieniak have been tying up loose ends or knitting together separate ones among the Jennys-Bethel-Fairfax Platts. Claire Schuetrum has made sense of our Confederate War Platts, and Mary Eleanor Bowers has done everything that can be done to graveyards short of digging them up.

Enjoy your turkey. We have much to be thankful for. God has surely been good to this family that came to this country 244 years ago.

If you absolutely cannot come but have a report,
call me in Abbeville before Friday, or in Varnville at 942-2234
Holbrook at 943-2777
Carl at 632-3105

PLATTS-PLATZ (AND SOMETIMES PLATT) OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Over Two Hundred-fifty Years of a Salkehatchie River Family

Johann Jacob Platz and Christina Rentz Platz and their eight children emigrated from Württemberg, then a state in what is now southwestern Germany, arriving in Charleston, South Carolina, in October of 1751. Johann Jacob Platz received a Royal Grant of 400 acres on Pretty Creek, waters of the Great Saltketcher River, and some of his descendants have lived on or near that tract since.

This book will focus on the descendants of the second son, ~~Johannes Platz, or John Platts~~ (1743-1799), but some information on his brothers will be included: His older brother Johann Jacob Platz was born about 1740 and died in Colleton County about 1789. He married Catherine Rentz and had three known children. A younger brother Johann Christopher Platz was born about 1746 and died 20 May 1779. No record has been found for a marriage or for children. (Johannes Platz had four sisters and another brother, but nothing is known of what happened to them after reaching South Carolina.)

• **Johannes Platz** was born about 1743 in Schietingen, Germany, and died in Old Barnwell County, SC, as **John Platts** about 1799. His wife's name was **Sophia** (surname unknown), and he had at least ten children. Land records—grants, plats, and deeds—wills, estate inventories, maps, cemetery and Bible records, and photographs will illustrate the book. The index is expected to include at least 5,000 names. Genealogical information will be expressed in NGS Modified Register style. The 6 x 9 hard-cover book will sell for \$30-\$35 and is expected to be available June, 1997.

Chapters

- I. German Peasant Life in the First Half of the Eighteenth Century: Three Generations of Ancestors of Johan Jacob Platz and Christina Rentz
- II. The Late Colonial Period in South Carolina: The First Generation of the Platz Family in South Carolina, 1751-1775
- III. The American Revolution and the German Immigrants on the Saltketchers: The Second Generation
- IV. Between the Back Country and the Low Country, Between the Revolution and the Civil War: A Third Generation Immigrant Family Comes of Age
- V. The Civil War and Reconstruction: The Fourth and Fifth Generations of the Platts Family
- VI. The Platts (and Platt) Family in the New South: The Sixth and Seventh Generations
(Later generations will probably be listed only by name; we don't anticipate having enough room to treat them more fully.)

If you want an order blank to obtain copies at the pre-publication rate (probably \$25.00-\$30.00), please give your name and address and an estimate of the number of copies you want to F. Holbrook Platts, PO Box 82, Hampton, SC, 29924 (803-943-7236, work, or 943-2777, home). If you have not been contacted for family information, please call or write Todd Platt, 2614 B Lancelot Drive, Monroe, NC, 28110, (704-289-2608, evenings) before 1 January 1996. If you have family information to update, please let Todd know by the middle of March.

Rose-Marie Williams
112 Woodland Way
Abbeville, South Carolina 29620
Telephone (803) 459-5079 (home) 229-8335 (work)
April 5, 1989

Ms. Emma Pulaski Adams
117 Fort Marion Road
Beaufort, SC 29902

Dear Ms. Adams:

I have now married off my daughters but am woefully behind in my two projects. However, I wanted to let you know how very little Weekley information I have so that you wouldn't be counting on me for anything grand.

D R A F T
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

from

The Platts Family of Barnwell District, South Carolina
1751-1801: Third and Fourth Generations

Catherine Platts Brant Weekley

Catherine Platts was born ca. 1796-7, the youngest daughter of John Platts (ca. 1743-1799) and his wife Sophia (?; n.d.). She was the granddaughter of Johann Jacob and Christina Rentz Platz who, with their eight children, immigrated to South Carolina in 1751, from Emmingen, Wurttemberg (Yoder, 200), on board the "Ann" (Council Journal, 8 January 1752, p. 538), a ship belonging to Henry Laurens and George Austin (Laurens Papers, Vol. 1, p. 242). On 4 September 1753, Johann Jacob Platz received a royal grant of 400 acres on the waters of the Great Saltketcher River in Granville County (later Barnwell County and now Allendale County). His 30 March 1753 plat shows the land to be at the mouth of Pretty Creek (Colonial Plats, Vol. 5, p. 322). Presently, Allendale County Road 48 crosses Pretty Creek between Ulmer and SC Highway 41, near the rural community of Jenny's.

Catherine Platts married (1) Henry Brant between 23 April 1816 (when her brother John Platts, Jr., signed as her guardian) and 20 May 1816 (when Brant signed a receipt for "his proportionable part as an heir" of the estate of her father, John Platts). Child: Ann Brant who was known as Annie WEEKLEY (Murdaugh), b. 15 December 1816, d. 17 January 1910, m. 19 January 1843, to Hezekiah Bishop, b. 3 June 1819, d. 5 November 1904, both buried at Peniel Baptist Church Cemetery near Islandton, SC, (Bishop, p. 2. Their descendants are listed in Bishop.)

April 5, 1989

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Henry Brant was probably the son of John Frederick and Hannah Cope Brant and a brother of Richard, William, and John Brant, and of Susannah Brant Jenny. Wyman J. Priester of Macon, Georgia, a descendant of William Brant, has analyzed the nineteenth century Brant census records, and he writes, "I suggest that that unnamed son [of Frederick Brant] under 16 in 1790, over 16 in 1800, and 16-26 in 1810 must be Henry. He'd be about the right age to be marrying in 1816" (21 July 1987).

Catherine Platts Brant m. (2) Washington K. WEEKLEY.
Child: Dr. John M. WEEKLEY (Brabham, p. 86; Murdaugh),
b. ca. 1835. Twice married, Dr. WEEKLEY had four
children in 1870: Amy, b. ca. 1862; John, b. ca. 1864;
Nathaniel, b. ca. 1866; and William, b. ca. 1869 (1870
SC Census, Barnwell County, Washington K. WEEKLEY
Household #58).

Washington K. WEEKLEY was the son of William WEEKLEY,
who was deceased by 7 September 1832, and the brother
of Thomas C. WEEKLEY, Mary Ann WEEKLEY Stone, William
WEEKLEY, Ann WEEKLEY Getsinger, and Levicy WEEKLEY Deer
(Barnwell Deed Book W, pp. 353-355). Catherine Platts
Brant was probably not Washington K. WEEKLEY's first
wife. His son George appears to be the child of a
previous union (Noye, p. 86).

Brabham

Please make whatever corrections are necessary in the above information. I will be happy to furnish you with my sources if they are of any value to you, and, of course, would be delighted to learn from you whatever you are willing to share about the progenitors and descendants of William WEEKLEY.

I look forward to hearing from you even though I can offer nothing in return.

Sincerely,

Rose-Marie Williams

xc: Melon Day
Rev. Robert E. H. Peebles
Col. W. P. Tuten

THE PLATZ-PLATTS (AND SOMETIMES PLATT) FAMILY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

1751-1996

Two Hundred Forty-Five Years on the Salkehatchie River

Johann Jacob Platz and Christina Rentz Platz, and their eight children emigrated from Württemberg, then a state in what is now southwestern Germany, and arrived in Charleston, South Carolina, in October of 1751. Johann Jacob Platz received a Royal Grant of 400 acres on Pretty Creek, waters of the Great Saltketcher River, and some of their descendants have lived on or near that tract since. The Platz family included four girls and four boys, and while little is known about the girls and one of the boys, family historians have been gathering information on three of the sons for several years. Johann Jacob Platz was born about 1740 and died in Colleton County about 1789; Johannes Platz was born about 1743 and died in Barnwell County about 1799; Johann Christopher Platz was born about 1746 and died 20 May 1799.

The descendants of Johannes Platz, or John Platts as he was later known, are planning to publish a book covering the Platts Family, from their German roots through 1996. Any of his descendants or any descendants of any of his sisters or brothers wishing to participate is welcome to join the endeavor and urged to attend the planning meeting.

Many African American families in the counties that border the Salkehatchie River also trace their roots back to the name Platts, and they are equally welcome to join the project and include information on their ancestors and descendants.

The organizers have agreed that the research can be done by volunteers—no experience necessary—and no one will be asked to contribute anything beyond letters, phone calls, interviews, trips to the court house to look for deeds and wills, or trips to the cemetery to read tombstones. Anyone interested in becoming a part of this project who can't attend the planning meeting is encouraged to contact one of the organizers listed below.

PLANNING MEETING

OCTOBER 14, 1995

9:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

(WE'LL TAKE A LUNCH BREAK!)

**LAW OFFICES OF PETERS MURDAUGH PARKER ELTZROTH & DETRICK
307 EAST FIRST STREET, HAMPTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**BRING YOUR FAMILY BIBLE AND OTHER INFORMATION YOU'RE
WILLING TO SHARE, YOUR NOTEBOOK, LAPTOP, OR TAPE RECORDER
AND
FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS, DEEDS, OR WILLS OUT OF GRANDMA'S TRUNK**

Robert C. Connelly, III
Route 1, Box 94
Ulmer, SC 29849
803-632-3108 (evenings)

Todd Platt
2614 B Lancelot Drive
Monroe, NC 28110
704-289-2608

Holbrook Platts
PO Box 82
Hampton, SC 29924
803-943-2777

Rose-Marie Williams 112 Woodland Way Abbeville, SC 29620

803-459-5079

PEOPLE INVITED TO OCTOBER 14TH PLANNING MEETING
PLEASE INVITE OTHERS TO JOIN US

✓ Ms Mary E Bowers
385 Wyman Blvd
Estill SC 29

Mrs. Hannah Priester
P.O. Box
Varnville SC 29944

Ms. Katheryn B. Moore
5118 Parkside Drive
North Charleston, SC 29406

Ms Betty Suber
PO Box 125
Holly Hill SC 29059

✓ Mr. Holbrook Platts
PO Box 82
Hampton SC 29924

Mr. Elmer O. Parker
5012 Circle Drive
Columbia SC 29206

✓ Mr. Robert C. Connelly III
Rt 1 Box 94
Ulmer SC 29849

Ms Sara Louise Baxter Winters
123 Landfall Circle
Savannah GA 31410

Ms. Marian Gibson
127 East 101 St., I-D
New York, NY 10029-6154

Mr. Harold David Williams
2735 Kiawah Avenue
Columbia, SC 29205

Ms Virginia Platts Hodge
Rt 1 Box 68
Fairfax, SC 29827

Ms Betty Jane Miller
Rt 2 Box 445
Barnwell SC 29812

✓ Ms Carolyn J. Piekieniak
2009 Center Spring Road
Edgefield SC 29824

M/M Dan Polk
1401 Drexel Place
Charlotte NC 28209

✓ Rev. Dr. R.E.H. Peoples
8 Moon Shell Road
Hilton Head Island SC 29928

Ms Claire Schuetrum
1340 Dogwood Road
West Columbia SC 29172

Ms. Jerry Scott
Star Route, Box 77
Clarks Hill SC 29821

Mr. Ray Thomas
Rt 3 Box 189
Smoaks SC 29841

Ms Julia Youmans
PO Box 32
Brunson SC 29911

Ms Mildred Rivers
Hampton County Museum
Hampton SC 29924

✓ Mr. Todd Platt
2614 B Lancelot Drive
Monroe NC 28110

✓ Ms Rose-Marie Williams
112 Woodland Way
Abbeville SC 29620

*What Ruth, then
wrought? Nice
you read a draft
and he direct in as
needs be? you
are, of course,
going to be the next
often quoted researcher,
so you may as well
get a chance to
correct our errors
before we go to
press.
Rose-Marie*

MINUTES

The Platts Family History "How Did I Ever Get Myself Into This?" Committee met on Saturday, November 30, at 9:30 in the morning, in the Fellowship Hall of the Hampton United Methodist Church, Hampton, SC.

After a social and coffee half-hour, the meeting was called to order by Chairman and Carl Shelton Platts-family whip Holbrook Platts who also arranged for the meeting place, made the coffee, furnished the drinks, and kept us on track all day.

Present were Mary Eleanor Bowers, the Rev. Dr. Robert Peebles and Miss Cora who is our publishing consultant and his wife, Claire Schuetrum, Virginia Hodge, Carolyn Piekieniak, Todd Platt, Bob Connelly, Holbrook Platts, and Rose-Marie Williams. (Mary Eleanor was present in the morning, and Bob in the afternoon.)

Rose-Marie presented an overview of the forthcoming book and a wide-ranging discussion ensued. The pre-publication description that is attached is a result of this focusing. **Please make copies of it and send it along with your Christmas cards to anyone you think may be interested.**

Mary Eleanor reported on her findings and problems with the Mary Elizabeth Platts Folk (1811-1836) family. No decisions were reached on what would or would not be included until she finds out if and when Frank Folk will print another edition of his recent book. If his is forthcoming, there is no reason to include later generations of that family in our book: we can refer our readers (and buyers) to him and *vice versa*.

Cousin Robert read his essay on the Platts in Colonial America, and we all agreed we wanted more. Rose-Marie is to get it word-processed and back to him with some suggestions for enlarging certain sections. *next wk*

Claire reported on her progress on the Harriet Platts Moore (1820-??)*. She was given several suggestions of where to look next.

Todd has entered all the names and vital statistics that Betty Suber had in her computer on Abeline Mahala Elizabeth Platts Folk Carter Folk (1829-1897). Cousin Robert encouraged us all to add flesh to these bony statistics, so Todd will send the print outs back to the family representatives to get the stories: where did these folks live, worship? What were their occupations and pre-occupations? If they lived during hard times, how did they cope? If they left correspondence, served in public office, performed a heroic deed, write it up. If they lived lives of quiet desperation, never fulfilled their own dreams, stole a mule, deserted their families, tell us about that, too. "Warts and all," Cousin Robert reminded us. And pictures, too!

Holbrook reported that most of the John Jacob Platts (1823-186?) family group sheets have been turned in. He has been working with maps and the scope of the land holdings and settlement of our forbears. He is also working on some Civil War information which he will gather and turn over to Rose-Marie for editing.

December 9, 1996

Virginia and Carolyn reported that all of the William (Bill) Platts and Susannah Platts Roberts family has been completed. They will also include some Jenny information in their section. They have also been working with Bob Connelly on Harter and All family history.

Todd reported on his Alfred Platts family, all of which he has now documented.

Claire reported on the Confederate War Platts and allied families. She will continue to gather information and turn it in to Bob Connelly for tabulation. She reported on the two descendants of Elizabeth Platts All Ulmer on whom she has gathered information.

Bob reported on and turned over to Todd the All and Harter families as well as the Eve Platts Copeland (1816-?) and Anna Miley Platts Young (1813-?) family. He and Rose-Marie still have to turn in their Miley Platts Kinard and Nancy Platts Hiers information. Virginia Hodge was asked to get a name of whomever in the Hiers family is working on their new edition so that we don't unnecessarily duplicate each other's information.

Rose-Marie still has the Christina Platts Howard Family and Hannah Platts Cone Family to turn in. She and Todd have dead-ended on the David Platts line, and George Platts had no children. He will, however, get some attention as his estate provided many of the clues to unlocking the secrets of his siblings' families.

We decided to include Old St. Nicholas (a.k.a. the Brant Cemetery) and the Harter Cemetery in our book as well as a brief history of St. Nicholas Lutheran Church.

At some point during the day, we ate lunch, getting a chance to stretch our legs and visit. We are a diverse group of people, conservatives to liberals, Episcopalians to Baptists, old to young, male and female. All of us grew up with a strong sense of our family ties and we all wish we had listened more. We enjoy each other's company, are grateful for the opportunity to come together, and still excited about our undertaking. How fortunate we are that Holbrook and Todd have held us to strict accountings of our duties and kept us on track; that Cousin Robert Peebles tracked down Cousin Florence Murdaugh's family record notebooks; that he contacted other Platts families looking for connections; that Louise Platts Barnes communicated with others who she knew had Platts lines; that Rose-Marie and Bob Connelly learned to work together on *Peebles-Priester* and are so noisy about what they do that people like Claire and Todd find them.

We will meet again in early spring. Plan to join us. This will be the final meeting. We go to press in March!

Respectfully submitted,

Rose-Marie Williams

112 Woodland Way

Abbeville, South Carolina 29620-1542 (864-459-5079)

*does not denote that information is not available. Secretary is just too lazy to go find it.