



OZSPHCA NEWS & UPDATE

August 2019

**Old Zion St. Paul Halsellville
Cemetery Association (OZSPHCA)**

2223 West End Road, Chester, South Carolina 29706

Greetings!

We, the members of the Old Zion Team, like to periodically use the **OZSPHCA NEWS & UPDATE** extend greetings and words of heartfelt appreciation for the many ways you provide support and encouragement to us. We continue to make tremendous progress with the restoration and maintenance of the **Old Zion Cemetery and Heritage Site at Halsellville**. The loyal and dedicated year-round workers of the Executive Committee/Team always know that you respond generously when we periodically reach out to you for assistance with a particular project. “Generosity is a sign of a great soul and our ‘Thank You’ seems so small compared to all you’ve done [over the years], but it comes from the bottom of our hearts.

There have been many life changes (joys, celebrations, achievements, milestones, and transitions) have occurred with each of us and our families since we gathered for The **Eighth (8th) Annual Revival Reunion** last year. However, we remain grateful for life and continue to trust in the **Great I Am, Jesus the Christ!** So it was with our ancestors and forebears who pioneered at these places, Old Zion and St. Paul, and paved the way for us!

It is with a note of deep sadness that we announce the deaths of two our faithful and loyal members of the OZSPHCA Executive Committee/Team. Alex Alexander Feaster passed on December 5, 2019 in Columbia, S. C. and Havies Wilkes, Sr. Passed on March 15, 2019 in Kannapolis, N. C.

Mark Your Calendar for Sunday, September 15, 2019 - 3:00 P.M.!

“Third Sunday in September”

The time is fast approaching for the **Ninth (9th) Annual Old Zion Revival Reunion/Camp Meeting (Sunday, September 15, 2019, 3:00 P.M.)**. Many of you have attended previous reunions and enjoyed a time of worship, praise, and fellowship. It is always a remarkable occasion when the descendants of earlier generations gather to tell the story and invoke the spirit and heritage of a sacred place! The words of the Old Testament minor prophet Joel instruct us to, “Tell your children about it, Let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.” (Joel 1:3) In anticipation of this **Ninth Gathering** on these sacred grounds, we look back and joyfully sing, “Look where He brought us from!”

The Gunnison Toilet Bathroom Building Erected at Old Zion



This The Gunnison Toilet Bathroom Building was installed here at the **Old Zion Cemetery and Heritage Site at Halsellville** on Friday, May 24, 2019 at a cost of \$23,706.00. **The Herbert and Anna Lutz’s Foundation** of Chester provided a grant to the **Old Zion St. Paul Halsellville Cemetery Association (OZSPHCA)** on January 7, 2019, in the amount of \$15,000 to assist in funding the facility. The members of the OZSPHCA provided the remainder of the cost. The Herbert and Anna Lutz’s Foundation members visited the Old Zion Cemetery and Heritage Site on Monday, June 17, 2019. They inspected the facility and received a briefing and final report on the grant from James E. “Jimmy” Wright, President of OZSPHCA. Wright conveyed to the members of The Herbert and Anna Lutz’s Foundation the OZSPHCA’s deep gratitude and appreciation for The Foundation’s major contribution in helping to underwrite the cost of this needed enhancement at the **Old Zion Cemetery and Heritage Site**.



***The Herbert and Anna Lutz’s Foundation Members Visiting Old Zion Cemetery and Heritage Site
Monday, June 17, 2019***



One of the Founding Members of OZSPHCA Passes at 92
Mr. (Uncle) Havies Wilkes, Sr., September 21, 1926 – March 15, 2019

Occasionally in life our paths intersect with people who are inspirational giants. When working organizationally, they can be a source of encouragement and support in the accomplishment of significant work. So it was with Havies Wilkes, Sr. He was one of earliest supporters of the restoration work at Old Zion and an organizing member of the Old Zion St. Paul Halsellville Cemetery Association (OZSPHCA). Uncle Havies and “Mrs. Elizabeth” were faithful in attending each early organizational meeting. It was Uncle Havies’ parliamentary motion that led to the formal organization of the OZSPHCA.

Mr. Havies Wilkes, Sr. passed away on March 15, 2019 at the Tucker Hospice House in Kannapolis, North Carolina. Funeral Service was held at the Marable A. M. E. Zion Church in Kannapolis on Saturday, March 23, 2019.

As a former member of the Old Zion A. M. E. Zion Church with deep family roots and ties, Uncle Havies was a valuable source of information on the history and people of this sacred place of worship here at Halsellville. He graced us with his enthusiastic presence and smile at each **Annual Revival Reunion/Camp Meeting** on “The Third Sunday in September.” His “Wilkes Family” was always the single largest family group at each Annual gathering. We always looked forward with great joy to their arrival “from Kannapolis.” **Uncle Havies’ Fish Fry** was the “big hit” and the **Seventh (7th) Annual Revival Reunion/Camp Meeting (2017)**. Due to his illness, he was not able to attend the **2018 Annual Revival Reunion**.

We continue to extend our deepest thoughts and prayers to Uncle Havies’ Family and we shall always hold him in grateful remembrance for his valuable work and contributions to the now **Old Zion Cemetery and Heritage Site at Halsellville**. To God Be the Glory!

Alex Alexander Feaster Passed on December 5, 2018

Alex was a faithful member and diligent worker after joining with the Old Zion Team in the restoration work at Old Zion Heritage. Alex assisted with every aspect of labor and work and the Annual Old Zion Revival Reunion/Camp Meeting at Old Zion Heritage Site. He used his skills in masonry and carpentry to assist with many of the projects. Alex’s sense of humor contributed to the fun and excitement we enjoyed as we engaged in the sometime heavy manual labor required in clearing bushes, trees, erecting structures, and other site preparation.

Alex Alexander Feaster died on December 5, 2018 at the Agape Hospice House, Columbia, South Carolina. A Service of Remembrance and Celebration was held for Alex on Monday, December 10, 2018 at The St. Paul Halsellville Baptist Church, Chester, South Carolina.

Alex was a faithful member of the St. Paul Halsellville. He was a member of the Hymn Choir, a Sunday school teacher, and a member of the Usher Board.

The OZSPHCA will always hold Alex in grateful remembrance for his untiring work with us here at the **Old Zion Cemetery and Heritage Site at Halsellville**. We wish the best for children and other family members as they press on with life and living. “May the work that I have done speak for me.”

PRAY FOR THOSE BEING HEAIED AT HOME – Faithful OZSPHCA Members!

Mrs. Rose (“Miss Rose”) Franklin Wilkes – Kannapolis, North Carolina

Jannie Price Woods – Chester, South Carolina

Helen Wilkes Woods, Chester, South Carolina

An Invitation

**The Ninth (9th) Annual Old Zion Revival Reunion/Camp Meeting
3:00 P. M. – Sunday, September 15th 2018**

A Service of Worship and Praise! Old Fashion Dinner ! Great Fellowship!

Please Note: Accommodations, facilities, and food will be adequate, however, feel free to bring your lawn chairs, folding tables, food contributions, coolers, etc. for dining on the grounds.

Major Construction, Improvements, and Upgrades at the Old Zion Site since the First Annual Revival Reunion (September 2011)

1. Concrete Slab/Floor Poured
2. Shelter Erected
3. Cemetery Partial Purchased to Clear Land Deed/Title
4. Old Zion Cemetery Sign Erected
5. Old Zion AME Zion Heritage Site and Worship Center Sign Erected
6. Pews/Podium Purchased/Donated
7. Additional Trees Removed/Site Clearing
8. Replicas of Old Zion Church Towers
9. Food Serving Shelter - 2015
10. Land Clearing/Tree Removal - Ongoing
11. Simpson Graveyard – Stone Road (donated by Mr. Brenton Feaster) – 2015
12. Landscaping with Railroad Ties – April 2016
13. Highway (Site Location) Sign Erected –April 2016
14. Land Purchase(1/2 Acre-Fronting the Old Zion Site to West End Road)–May 2016
15. The Willie Mae Franklin Price Smith Memorial Storage Unit
16. Extensive project to remove trees from site – June 2018
17. **Erection of Gunnison/Toilet Bathroom – May 2019**

Team/ Workers!

Executive Committee: (Pastor John Heath, Eumon Chisholm, Jr., Vice President, Yvonne Cook Davis, Barbara Cook Jennings, Samuel Simpson, Jr., Jannie Price Woods, Secretary-Treasurer, Charlie Hopkins, George Caldwell, Howard Culp, Loretta Garner Feaster, and James E. Wright, President) **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Loretta Feaster Brown, Stacie Feaster Chaplain, Gracie 'Bug' Wilkes Lightner and Willie Lightner** as they continue the work of maintenance and improvements at the Heritage Site, cemetery, and Worship Center (Shelter) at Old Zion at considerable personal labor and expense. Our commitment is to establish and lay a good foundation so that the work will be carried on in years to come by succeeding generations.

Get the Word Out! – “Third Sunday in September” at Old Zion
Call, email, Facebook--- relatives, homfolk, friends, and acquaintances
Tell them about the restoration work at Old Zion and invite them to the
9th Annual Revival Reunion/Camp Meeting – September 15, 2019 at 3:00PM

Contact Information:

Jannie Price-Woods at (803)581-1545, Eumon Chisholm, Jr. at (803) 377-8325, George Caldwell at (803)385-7279, Samuel Simpson, Jr. at (803)209-6788, Yvonne Wright Cook Davis (803)389-1422, James E. Wright (803)754-9510, You May Send Any Email Correspondence To:
jpricewoods68@gmail.com or jedwardwright@gmail.com

PLEASE RETURN WITH DONATION

Donation of \$ _____ is Enclosed

From _____

In Memory of _____

Pictures, etc. are Enclosed _____

2019 Souvenir Book Publications:

Please return by: September 1, 2019

Full page \$100 / Half Page \$75/ Fourth page \$50

Business Card \$25 / Patron \$10

Donations over \$50 receives a book

Your financial contribution to support the continuing work at Old Zion site are needed and greatly appreciated!

All original pictures, documents, etc., for ads will be returned promptly Please make all checks / money orders payable to: OZSPHCA

MAIL TO:

OZSPHCA
C/o Jannie Price-Woods
687 Yarborough Rd
Chester, South Carolina 29706

Contact Information:

Jannie Price-Woods at (803)581-1545, Eumon Chisholm, Jr. at (803) 377-8325, George Caldwell at (803)385-7279, Samuel Simpson, Jr. at (803)209-6788, Yvonne Wright Cook Davis (803)389-1422, James E. Wright (803)754-9510, You May Send Any Email Correspondence To: jpricewoods68@gmail.com or jedwardwright@gmail.com

“A cemetery is a history of people – a perpetual record of yesterday and a sanctuary of peace and quiet today. A cemetery exists because every life is worth loving and remembering – always!”