Dear Friends.

We began the new year of 2023 with great expectations. One year before the great plague of Covid hit, our executive committee held an all day planning session brainstorming about the future of our society. One major goal was to meet people in the greater community doing genealogy and local history, but not affiliated with us. All of our plans were sidelined by Covid but one. Our day long presentations at the Spring Mayhaw Festival and the Fall SouthArk Expo have borne some fruit: our Facebook and mailing list have grown, and we have welcomed some new members. This year, our major effort will focus again on these two events. They offer a great opportunity to meet and visit with many people interested in genealogy and local history but not part of our society. Our great hope is that some of these people will join us. Please spread the word about our society and continue to imagine what we may become in the future.

Many thanks to our faithful workers. Sharon does a great job with our Facebook page and as editor of <u>Tracks and Traces</u>. Carolyn keeps everything rolling on an even course and spends many hours in the Genealogy Room of the library. She has helped enumerable people in their research. Dorathy is always faithful and refuses to let a physical disability stem her enthusiasm. One of our new members, Jen Akin, has volunteered to livestream our monthly programs. Many thanks to everyone whose work goes unseen. It is all much needed. Let's make 2023 the best year yet for our society.

Sincerely,