

## **History and Story of the Pacolet Memories Website and Preservation by USC Upstate**

I started the Pacolet Memories website around 2006 as a public service to the Pacolet community. I realized that the story of the town and its people, that I knew growing up, was rapidly disappearing. The website was created as an effort to preserve that memory. Over the years, the website has expanded and the information would fill several large books. Since the beginning, my wife and I have paid all the expenses including the website hosting. All along we knew that when we stopped paying hosting services for the website, it would disappear and no longer be available to the public. We have been concerned for a long time about that possibility. Not only was the Pacolet Memories site in long-term jeopardy but the similar site about Glendale, SC was also. Not long after I started the Pacolet website, my wife Mary Lee McKinney Teaster started a similar site, (<https://glendalesc.com/index.html>), for her hometown of Glendale.

Unfortunately, my family suffered a terrible tragedy in February of 2023 when Mary passed away. As a result of her passing, we had a very unusual thing to occur. Dr. Andrew Myers of the University of South Carolina Upstate learned of her passing. He knew that she had been instrumental in creating the Glendale website. He believed that the Glendale website was an important historical source about Glendale and the Spartanburg area. He was concerned that Mary's passing would lead to the disappearance of the Glendale website. He contacted our family to see if USC Upstate might be of assistance in preserving the website and keeping it online for public viewing. This initial contact with Dr. Myers has led to the wonderful situation that both the Glendale website and the Pacolet website will be hosted and made available for future public viewing by USC Upstate.

**This transfer will happen on January 1, 2024. This transfer means that both websites will no longer have new material added after that date. They will be basically frozen in time after that. The contact information on the former websites will no longer be active and working. However, I can still be contacted directly on both new websites at my regular email address at “[teastergerald@gmail.com](mailto:teastergerald@gmail.com)”.**

The new internet addresses for both sites at USC Upstate will be:

<https://publications.uscupstate.edu/glendalesc/>

<https://publications.uscupstate.edu/pacoletmemories/>

I think this is a perfect solution in keeping all the material on both websites available for future generations. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. Myers and to USC Upstate for doing this.

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