

# Novel about rural life before the War Between the States now available

After lengthy service in both the Army and Navy, Jerold D. Peeler returned to the area of his youth to retire and write a book. Unlike most military veterans he chose not to write about his career which took him over much of the world, but instead chose to retell the stories that as a child he had heard from his grandfather and other family members.

His novel is based on true facts of what rural life was like in the years before the War Between the States, the war years, and a brief period of military occupation under the heels of the conquering north. Only the names of the characters are changed to hide the real names of the people about whom he wrote. The author uses his imagination to fill in the gaps between the stories.

Although the book is titled Thicketty, it is not about that small area of Cherokee County, S.C., but includes all of the "Dark Corner" of the state. Throughout the book he refers to Spartanburg, Limestone Springs, the Cowpens Battleground, and other settlements in the foothills of North Carolina.

Unlike most writers whose first characters seem to be cardboard "cutouts," his characters are viable living individuals. They are very human with all the characteristics of normal people. His characters know love and hate, sorrow and happiness and all the emotions of life. Furthermore, he lets his characters speak in their own language. They express themselves in the local dialogue and quotes from long ago that best express their feelings. When one of the characters refers to the expression of a man as looking like "a mule eating briars" he echoes a voice from long ago yet it is still heard today.

He faithfully records their everyday life so realistically that the reader occasionally can smell the sweet and stale tobacco of the men at work. The pain of back-breaking labor by both males and females can be felt.

Skillfully Peeler weaved the thread of history through the fabric of his book. In so doing he has recorded the history of a section of the state which will become more important to the readers of his book for years to come.

This book is a joy to read, a treasure to savor, and a view into a turbulent period of the state's history. The last line of the book suggests that a sequel could follow.

The author sums up his story in a short blurb. He writes:

Thicketty is a compilation of true and half-true stories with just enough fiction thrown in to tie it all together. The story is set between 1854 and 1871, in what was then part of Spartanburg

County, South Carolina. The two main characters are Walt Banneck and his son, Cal.

Walt is a man of burning passions who can be as thoughtful and kind as he can be heartless and cruel. A dirt-poor farmer and family-man, shunned by his pious neighbors before being called to serve in the confederate army, returns to become not only a relatively successful farmer and entrepreneur, but the area's champion as well.

And Cal, a young boy who idolizes his all-too-often absent father and receives little love from his mother, is drawn into the bosom of the farm's Negro family. From the night she was born, he has had a special place in his heart for his younger sister, Susan, And, from the day when Ben Trivette's beautiful and vivacious young daughter comes for her first tutorial visit, Cal knew in his heart and soul that someday she would be

his wife and the mother of his children.

It is a story of love and hate, of compassion and vindictiveness, of protection and treachery, of prudence and recklessness. But above all, it is a story of youthful determination and the undying hope that tomorrow will be better than today.

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Sherman College of Chiropractic and Spartanburg Community College (SCC) have formalized an agreement to create the Pre-Chiropractic Institute (PCI) at Spartanburg Community College.

semester can contact the SCC Admissions Center at (864) 592-4800; or toll free (866) 591-3700; or apply online at <http://www.sccsc.edu>.

Through the Institute, SCC students can earn an Associate of Science Degree with Pre-Chiropractic Electives and a Pre-Chiropractic Certificate, and then seamlessly transfer to Sherman College of Chiropractic, where they can complete a Doctor of Chiropractic degree. Students can now go from an associate's degree straight to a graduate degree.

"The Pre-Chiropractic Institute at SCC will provide students with a convenient, cost-effective and timely path to enrollment at Sherman College and to their futures as doctors of chiropractic," said Sherman College President Dr. Jon Schwartzbauer.

Sherman College and SCC have had a long-standing, mutually beneficial relationship. Students from Sherman College use SCC campus resources like the library, and SCC classes have visited Sherman College for anatomy lab tours.

Both colleges are a part of the College Town consortium, which integrates academic leadership and social opportunities for students from the six colleges in the Spartanburg area.

Amanda Davis, an SCC student who has already completed her pre-requisites for the Doctor of Chiropractic program, states "I believe the Pre-Chiropractic Institute will benefit prospective students in a great way. Having an advisor at SCC who can help them get everything they need to pursue a graduate degree at Sherman will make the process a lot easier."

For more information about the Pre-Chiropractic Institute contact Phyllis Rogers in the SCC Admissions Center at (864) 592-4816; or Dr. Gail Jones in the SCC Science Department at (864) 592-4962; or call toll free, (800) 922-3679.

To learn more about the doctor of chiropractic program at Sherman College please contact Kristy Shephard, admissions counselor, at (800) 849-8771, ext. 211.

Fall semester classes at SCC begin Aug. 16, and registration is going on now. Individuals interested in applying to the College for the fall

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