

Jessica Nelms/Staff

Seneca Woman's Club Promotional Director Donna Burati, second from right, talks with a group of Explorers from the Newcomers of Greater Greenville at the Ballenger House before the start of a walking tour through downtown Seneca on Thursday morning.

# Strolling through Seneca

## Greenville newcomers get guided tour of town

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SENECA — A rather sizable group of women was seen ambling through downtown Seneca Thursday as part of an effort to familiarize newcomers to the Upstate with their surroundings.

Twenty-nine women from the Explorers, a sub-group of The Newcomers of Greater Greenville, were given a tour of downtown Seneca by Donna Burati, who is the promotional director of the Seneca Woman's Club and the Historic Ballenger House.

"This is the second tour we've had in a week," Burati said. "We have 29 people today and had 14 last week. This is just for people new to the Upstate who want to familiarize themselves with the surrounding areas."

The group met at the Ballenger House and walked to the Blue Ridge Arts Center, the Seneca Presbyterian Church, the Lunney Museum, Seneca City Hall and then Circa 1930 to eat lunch before shopping on Ram Cat Alley and downtown Seneca.

Myra Hess, past president of the club, said Newcomers of Greater Greenville has more than 400 members, some of whom opt to travel to various Upstate communities to learn about them.

Burati said the women were given packets full of information and brochures promoting different parts of Oconee County, as well as the Oconee County Economic Development Commission's new tourism guide.