

1. **Call to Order:** Ron called the meeting to order at 10:09am. Those attending: Ron, Lois, Linda, Sue, and Connie.

2. **Minutes:** Copies of the December 8, 2015, minutes were distributed by e-mail and approved by those members present.

3. **President**

Installation of officers will take place at the January 9, 2016, General Meeting. The installation process was discussed. Ron also will recognize the many volunteers.

Officers for 2016:

President – Ron DeYoung
Vice President – Katie Ross
Treasurer – Lois Courtney
Secretary – Linda Olsen
Librarian – Sue VanLaere
Membership – Connie Patterson

Appointed positions needed:

Historian & Photographer

4. **Past President - Faye**

5. **Vice President/Programs**

*Ron will speak on "Acadian Roots: A Brief History" for our January program. He has spent some quality time researching his family and has made significant discoveries.

*Katie has made a list of future programs.

*Ideas generated for future programs included a speaker from the DAR, a copyright lawyer to address questions about copying books, and to confer with other gene societies about speakers.

*Announcing the program for the next month at the General Meeting seems like a good idea as well as a program review article for the newsletter.

6. **Committee Reports**

a. **Membership:** Connie

*Connie announced that 37 renewing memberships have been received plus one comp membership and four life memberships.

*Connie will send gentle e-mail reminders to those previous members that have not yet paid their dues.

*Connie will distribute a membership list to the Board members.

b. **Treasurer/Finance Committee:** Lois

Lois reported that we made \$326 from the December Holiday Auction! Also the big expenses for the year have been paid and our current balance \$4,957.64.

c. **Publications:** Web, Newsletter

***Published Book Sales:** Sue

*Discussion developed about how we may eventually offer our society published books online to sell through a Pay Pal account or a similar system.

*Linda will determine how many cemetery lists could be copied from the BCGS web site unless we find another way to digitally collect this information.

*** Webmaster:** Linda and Ron Olsen –

*Ron DeYoung spoke to the Philomath City Manager, Chris Workman about someone who might be able to facilitate the transition from our website to a more "modern" and easily updated one. He

knew the product, Wordpress, and will check for those who might be able and willing to help us build a new website.

*Ron will follow up with David Devon, from Linn County, to determine if he would be interested in developing the website David and Danell worked on initially. We would consider paying him if the cost is not too great.

*The possibility of using high school students to build a new web site, probably would not be feasible because of the staff time and quality control issues involved.

***Newsletter - Ron**

*Ron asked for feedback on the newsletter. Was it too verbose? Were there too many URLs? It was agreed that the newsletter is wonderful as it is, jam-packed with something for everyone.

*Ron may add a "Tech Corner" for information on easy to use technological resources such as "hot spots".

*Lois will continue to write program reviews for the newsletter.

*Interviewing members and writing it up for the newsletter was very positively received.

*Interviewing veterans is a possible topic for newsletter articles.

*Perhaps the writing class can produce some written articles for the newsletters.

***BCGS Facebook - Sue**

Sue posted upcoming program information for January 9, 2016: Ron will present "**Acadian Roots: A Brief History.**" He has been spending some quality time in the maritime provinces doing research on his family and has made significant discoveries.

Sue is working on her article about an American service man from Oregon that is buried in the Netherlands. An inquiry came through Facebook for help in finding information on the soldier and Sue researched and subsequently sent the information to the extremely happy inquirer in the Netherlands. She will submit this article to the Corvallis Gazette Times newspaper.

e. Library Committee: Sue

The BCGS librarians will meet in February to discuss projects undertaken in the library.

7. Unfinished Business

8. New Business

We assessed ways to publicize our BCGS programs—what are we doing now and what else could we be doing?

Ron adds current program information to: *Philomath Community Facebook page, *His church's (closed) Facebook page and ward bulletin, and *The Family History Center

Sue: Adds an announcement to the BCGS Facebook page

Grace: Adds an announcement to the Philomath Reader Board

Lois: Will add an announcement to the Corvallis Gazette Times FYI column.

All: take posters around the community announcing our special programs including Libraries, FOF, group organizations and more.

9. Other

10. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Olsen, Secretary