

**THE BENTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, December 10, 2011**

Call to Order – Margaret

Margaret called the meeting to order and welcomed members.

Minutes– Linda Olsen

The minutes of the November 12, 2011, meeting were approved as read by members by e-mail.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

President

* Margaret thanked members individually and as committee members for all their support during her presidency. Her last duty as president will be to preside at the January 7, 2011, board meeting.

*Margaret passed around the committee sign-up sheet for the new year and also a sign-up sheet for refreshments.

*Margaret reminded everyone to vote. The new officers will be installed at the January meeting.

Past President

Vice President / Program Committee

Today's program is our annual December Holiday Party and auction followed by a potluck. Faye is organizing the January 2012 program featuring a WWII re-enactor. Other possibilities for 2012 programs are having another round table session on one or more topics and a presentation about the Star family presented by Steve Morrison. A process for selecting topics for a round table session was discussed. Using a sign-up sheet for potential topics may be used again.

Treasurer / Finance Committee

*Judy reviewed the income and expenses. Our current balance is \$3968.93. The yearly rent checks for the church and museum meeting spaces totaling \$600 were the large expenses.

*Margaret passed around a quarterly expense and income report she put together.

Membership - Mary Jo is accepting payment of annual dues and the ballots for new officers.

Publication committee

Books for Sale

*Judy will accept the Books for Sale responsibilities.

*Space for storage of our society published book originals will be stored in the upstairs area of the Annex sometime after the first of the year.

Newsletter:

Margaret asked for comments about the newsletter. She will continue with the same format. Contributions for newsletter articles are needed and may be sent to Margaret anytime.

Web pages: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbentgs/>

Linda reported that there were no changes to the web pages.

Library Committee

*Ellen announced that 136 books were ready for check out. She was complimented for her organizational skills and hard work.

*Bill reported that the National Genealogical Society book on Washington has not been published.

*A book selection policy was discussed. An informal guide from the past suggested that books purchased for our library should cover the whole state, not individual counties or specific families. Another informal guide suggested that a book recommended by a member may be purchased if approved by the library committee and the member pays half the cost.

*Margaret announced that sometime in January 2012, the upstairs room in the Northwest corner of the Annex will become storage space for our society library. There's also a bookshelf and closet. The library committee will probably decide how to organize the space.

*Insurance for our library was discussed. Margaret will check with the museum to see if our library could be added to the museum's insurance. Another suggestion was checking into the security system to determine if a fire alarm could be added to it. A fire extinguisher needs to be handy.

Historian - Nancy indicated that several people will take photos at today's meeting in the photographer's absence.

Photographer

Other

Margaret and Linda brought copies of the same newspaper article announcing a movie portraying the Creffield story of the early 1900s. Several books about this topic are available at the museum. The author of the Corvallis-Gazette Times newspaper Entertainment article had used the WPA histories found on our BCGS web site in his research.

Newspaper project

Gene reported that the U of O stated in an e-mail that our Gazette Times newspaper CDs were not of high enough quality to be useable for their newspaper project. It's possible that the Corvallis newspaper still could be considered in their next round of funding. The U of O also stated that it is possible to raise local funds for direct digitization of a specific title. We would need to let them know if we were interested in this option.

Unfinished Business

Margaret reminded members to vote for new officers. Ballots were available from Mary Jo.

New Business

Margaret reminded members to sign-up for committees and refreshments.

Queries

A request for an old will for James Conner was not found at the courthouse or museum. Linda responded to the query indicating that the will probably was at the State Archives. No further research was requested.

A query from Cory Frye, a reporter for the Corvallis GT researching the Creffield story, wanted to confirm information about the WPA records on our web site for Edmund Creffield. Danell responded to Cory Frye.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be Saturday, January 7, 2012

The next General meeting will be Saturday, January 14, 2012

Adjournment to Program

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Olsen, Secretary