

THE BENTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, January 12, 2008

Minutes – Linda Olsen

The minutes of the last general meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Gene Newcomb

Gene reviewed the expenses and income for the previous month. Our total income for the month was \$295.78 for a total of \$4,1~~56~~⁴⁴.10. Additional expenses will be rent for the Annex and our general meeting room.

Programs – David Kribs

Janice Barclay presented a wonderful story telling of "A Woman Preparing to cross the Oregon Trail." Creative Memories is tentatively scheduled for February.

A discussion of what members would be interested in for future programs generated some ideas on topics relating to religious groups such as Quakers or different ethnic groups and the challenges that genealogists face researching ancestors in other countries. Contact Dave or Bill if you have ideas for future programs.

Hostess – Betty Brummett

Librarian – Sandra Potter

Sandra brought copies of the newly printed library shelf list and also copies on CD. Members may purchase them at the meeting or at the Annex. Dean Johnson is donating a printer for the BCGS library use, and it will be set up for use with the computer.

Membership – Leila Crawford

Our paid membership is at 89 members. Some members are still renewing.

Library Schedule - Lee Rudisil

Publishing –Earle Greig

Book Committee - Damaris Reynolds

Queries -

Newsletter – Teri Greene

Bill passed around a paper copy of an Ancestral Digest written by Sharon Hobart telling of her genealogy research last summer while following the Oregon Trail from Texas to Oregon. She discovered family photos of Sarah Delaney Wilson Johnson and Samuel Wilson at the OSU library. She e-mailed her newsletter to the Benton County GenWeb webmaster as a way to share the experience of her discoveries and travels.

Bill announced a series of Museum-Member Day Trips beginning January 31, 2008. Trips are scheduled for the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum, Oregon Coast Aquarium, and Schnitzer Museum of Art. Contact Nancy at the Museum to make reservations. (929-6230)

The deadline for submitting articles to be published in the BCGS newsletter will be 5:00pm the first Saturday of the month.

Service Projects

Benton County GenWeb page – Danell Aukerman/Ron and Linda Olsen

Linda acquired a CD of scanned images of the bible pages housed at the Benton County Historical Museum.

The surnames and dates of events such as births, marriages and deaths will be posted at "Benton County Family Bibles" on our Benton County GenWeb page <http://www.rootsweb.com/~orbenton/>
As long as a bible has even one surname from Benton County, it is eligible. All the surnames will be posted. The benefits of sharing bible records was discussed and some members expressed interest in submitting their family bible pages. A bible record may be the only evidence of family relationships and events that still exist.

Cemetery Project --

GT Obituaries/Newspaper Project – Charlene Talbot/Linda Olsen

One reel left to adopt.

Surname File – Tonya Rawie

Donation Land Claim Map – Dorothy Burt

Historian – Lee Rudisill

Lee is closing out the past BCGS history scrapbook and will be starting a new one.

Old Business

The free Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation DNA kits have been distributed. The kits require a quick mouth rinse to be used for the DNA sample and a four generation family chart. Discussion followed on the type of results we could expect from this DNA kit and compared it to other DNA organizations. Members shared the type of feedback they received from other DNA organizations and how DNA is becoming increasingly important in the medical field.

New Business

The recent Corvallis newspaper article about the lady conducting independent research on the Witham family generated discussion about how important it is for us to inform the public about the family research opportunities that are available in our BCGS library and the museum. Bill knows of New England Historical Genealogical Society members in town and in Albany that he will contact with information about our genealogy society.

Janice Barclay suggested that high school seniors could use a cemetery clean-up project as their senior project. This lead to a discussion of the care of cemeteries and tombstones.

Margaret Fox told about a self-guided tour of Benton County and a brochure that is now available. She will bring brochures to share at the next meeting.

Health and Welfare:

Good wishes are extended to Sharlene, Danell, Maybell and Jean for continued good health.

Announcements

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, January 28, 2008

The next General meeting will be Saturday, February 9, 2008

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Olsen, Co-secretary