

**THE BENTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
Saturday, January 9, 2010**

**Call to Order – Margaret Fox**

Margaret called the meeting to order and welcomed members, guests, and visitors to the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting held in the Philomath Public Library meeting room.

**Minutes – Linda Olsen**

The minutes of the November 2009 general meeting were read and approved. The December 2009 meeting was canceled due to icy weather.

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**Reports of Officers and Committees:**

**Treasurer – Gene Newcomb**

November's balance was \$3, 538. There was no treasurer's report for the January 2010 meeting. Margaret reminded us that it's time to renew our membership.

**Auditor - Bill Gleaves**

Bill Gleaves, our new auditor, read his 2009 report stating that the records are all in order.

**Librarian – Grace Maddux**

Sandra showed a variety of magazines that are available in our BCGS library. Some themes were history vacations in NY and published family histories. Many wonderful periodicals are available in our library. Also the new shelf lists are available as a paper copy or on CD.

**Publishing –Earle Greig**

Earle reported that several additional cemetery books have been printed for the Historical Museum to sell and that payments from the museum will be made quarterly.

**Membership – Sandra Potter**

Leila collected donations of \$3 each for the 2010 barn calendars Kay Danley had brought. Leila reported that 55 members had already renewed their membership. Several members in attendance paid their dues. Leila stated that newsletters can be received either by regular mail or e-mail.

**Hospitality – Dean Johnson**

An additional person was needed to bring cookies for the February meeting. Leila volunteered.

**Programs – Susan Hayes**

As a follow-up to her previous presentation on English research, Susan summarized the web site, Lost Cousins, and passed around handouts describing how the 1880 US census or the 1881 Canadian or British census is used to find your cousins. She also explained the free membership and free subscriber status offer that's good until December 31, 2010. Lost Cousins also offers a free newsletter online.

Susan also asked for three or four volunteers for a future program to show and tell about "gadgets" they use for genealogy research. She needs 3 or 4 members to talk for about 10 minutes each.

Susan passed around a questionnaire for members to list topics they are interested in for future programs.

**Newsletter – Teri Greene**

No report

**Queries - Linda Olsen and Gene Newcomb**

Linda told about queries that are sent to her from people searching for information online either through the Benton County GenWeb page or the Pioneer Database web site.

## **Service Projects**

### **Benton County GenWeb page and Pioneer Database – Danell Aukerman/Ron and Linda Olsen**

Linda explained that Danell updates the Benton County Pioneer Database. When Linda receives e-mail queries directed toward the Pioneer Database, she forwards them on to Danell or if the query specifically refers to the South Benton County Pioneer Database, the query is sent to Dorothy Burt. Linda answers most other online queries and sometimes solicits help from other society members

### **Benton County Family Bibles - Linda Olsen**

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbenton/FamilyBibles.htm> 21 total

At this time there are 21 Benton County Family Bibles posted online. Linda explained the process to submit family bibles to the Historical Museum for them to scan the family history pages. Then she uses a CD of the bible images acquired from the museum and transcribes and posts the images online. It is important to note that the museum does not wish to keep your family bible, only to see it long enough to scan the pages containing your historical family data.

### **GT Obituaries/Newspaper Project – Charlene Talbot/Linda Olsen**

**Surname References to Benton County Newspapers – updated May 31, 2009, - 15,500 entries**

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbentgs/newsproj.html>

Linda needs more volunteers to complete this project. After more than 15 years, this project is close to being finished. Only two more newspapers remain to be indexed. Volunteers read the newspaper microfilm and record significant historical data. Linda transcribes the index information and posts it to a web site where anyone may view an alphabetical listing of names found in early Corvallis newspapers with references to the location of the specific article. This index is updated once a year.

## **Historian – Lee Rudisill**

## **Book Committee - Damaris Reynolds and Dean Hart**

### **Unfinished Business:**

The updated Benton County Genealogy Society ByLaws were read, voted upon and approved.

The updated version of the By Laws incorporates the elected officer co-positions.

Bill installed our new officers. They are:

Co-President – Margaret Fox

Co-1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Susan Hayes (as Program chairperson)

Co-2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Dean Johnson (as Hospitality)

Treasurer – Gene Newcomb

Co-Secretary for General Meetings – Linda Olsen

Librarian – Grace Maddux

Membership – Sandra Potter

Margaret mentioned that the “hot spot” wireless Internet connection through the museum is not yet completely reliable. Our meeting location at the Philomath Public Library offered wireless access which was necessary for Margaret’s online program presentation on the National Archives.

## **New Business**

### **Health and Welfare:**

### **Announcements**

The next Board meeting will be February 1, 2010

The next General meeting will be February 13, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Olsen, Co- Secretary, General Meetings