

**THE BENTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, January 14, 2012**

Call to Order – Margaret

Danell and Margaret welcomed members.

Minutes– Linda Olsen

The December 10, 2011, minutes were distributed by e-mail, reviewed and approved by members present.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

President - Danell

*Installation of new officers was the first order of business. Bill swore-in the newly elected officers.

President - Danell Aukerman
Vice President - Faye Abraham
Secretary - Linda Olsen
Treasurer - Margaret Fox

*Danell passed around two sign-up sheets. One for refreshments and one for committees. A few more people are still needed to help out on committees and to bring refreshments for the meetings.

*Danell asked for ideas to help increase our membership. Some ideas discussed were:

Holding an open house

A booth at fairs

Free series of classes for beginners

Free Saturday use of our library (for browsing, not for checking out books)

Posters to promote specific monthly programs

Poster that specifically promotes our society

Public service announcements on TV or in the newspaper (see the announcement in the FYI section of the Corvallis Gazette-Times prior to our General Meetings)

Adding a "Welcome" message to our web site directed at prospective new members

Adding our web site URL to all posters, brochures, newsletter

Dynamic programs that bring in a lot of new people such as the program on DNA

Past President – no report

Vice President / Program Committee

Today's January program will feature Dan Lower, a WWII re-enactor. He and his wife will have artifacts and pictures to show at his presentation. February's program will be small group discussions on a variety of topics. Faye passed around a list of topics to choose from. Members selected two topics from the list. A presentation by a Mayflower descendant may be available for the March program. Steve Morrison may be available by May for a presentation on the Star family and local history. He will bring one of his books as a door prize. Faye will work on composing posters to promote our monthly programs.

Treasurer / Finance Committee

Margaret reported our expenses and income. Our current balance is \$4186.76. She also reported that our bank account has now been transferred to the OSU Credit Union. The board approved an increase in our yearly donation to the museum from \$400 to \$500 in recognition of the increased space we will have available in part of the upstairs in the Annex.

Bill commented that we have donated labor and funds to the renovation of the Annex in the past.

Membership - Mary Jo reported that there are 34 paid memberships. Margaret will send out an e-mail reminder that memberships are due.

Public Relations

Publication committee

Books for Sale: Judy will be keeping track of the society published books sold and replenish the supply as needed.

Newsletter: Margaret will keep the newsletter at four pages. Send genealogy articles to Margaret for publication in the newsletter.
brochures
posters

Web pages: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbentgs/>
Linda reported that nothing new has been added to the web page since updating the shelf list; however, several additions to the Benton County Family Bible pages and the newspaper project are in process. Ellen is working diligently on the newspaper project listing the names of individuals mentioned in the categories of birth, death, marriages, legal and other.

Library Committee

Librarian - Grace reported that she is caught up and all the donated books are currently on the shelves. The library staff will meet February 7th to discuss what to store in the new upstairs space in the Annex. The library committee will also discuss an acquisition policy.

Library staff - Ellen was complimented for her great job arranging the vertical files. She brought several books from the library to show at the meeting.

Historian - Nancy brought the completed BCGS 2010-2011 album to show. It will be kept in the closet in the library.

Photographer

Audit Committee

Other

Margaret received a letter offering services as a translator in several languages. Contact Margaret for his e-mail address if you are interested.

Unfinished Business

Margaret explained the security alarm system for the museum complex which includes the Annex. The museum's insurance does not cover the contents in the Annex. There is no fire suppression system in the Annex. It was assumed that insuring the contents of our BCGS library would probably be quite expensive.

New Business

Danell surprised Margaret with a card and gift certificate from the BCGS membership in appreciation of her past service as president of our society.

Queries

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be Saturday, February 11, 2012 at 9:00am
The next General meeting will be Saturday, February 11, 2012 at 10:00am

Adjournment to Program

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Olsen, Secretary