

**THE BENTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, March 14, 2015**

Call to Order – President Ron

Ron welcomed members, new and renewed members and visitors.

Minutes– Linda The February 14, 2014, minutes were distributed by e-mail, reviewed and approved by members present.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

President - Ron

- a. Next General Meeting is April 11, 10:00am in the church social hall with program at 11:00am.
- b. Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, April 7, 10:00am -noon at the Philomath Library.
- c. Ron asked members for ideas for future speakers or programs; what would members most like to learn about?
- d. Ron encouraged current members to pay their dues.

Past President - Faye

Faye reviewed how past society genealogy classes were scheduled following the program time once a month. Several years ago, a series of writing classes were scheduled several times a month at a time convenient for those who wanted to attend. Topics included how to interview older relatives and topics on specific types of research as well as writing your family history.

Vice Presiden/Programs-- Katie

*March's program will feature Emily Aulicino to talk about DNA and how it helps genealogy research.

*April's program topic is German Research with a speaker on Prussia.

*future programs may include planning a research trip and workshops with genealogy tools.

Committee Reports

Membership:

Connie reported that we now have 42 paid memberships. She has updated the society brochure and asked for input on locations to distribute the brochures. She also asked members to wear their name tags during the program today.

Treasurer / Finance Committee

Treasurer: Ron reviewed the treasurer's report and passed around the spread sheet. So far we are staying a little ahead of what we have spent.

Publication committee

Web pages: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbenton/> . . .Benton Co., OR, Gen Web Page

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orbentgs/> . . .Benton Co. Genealogical Society

1. Web Pages: Ron and Linda Olsen will update the web page with current information.
2. Newsletter: Ron asked for newsletter articles to be sent to Brad. He encouraged members to write a story about their own genealogy and submit it to Brad for publication via his e-mail address found in the newsletter.
3. Facebook: Thanks to Dana's efforts this a wonderful social media resource. Go to "**Benton County Genealogical Society**" on Facebook to see what's been added.

Library Committee -

Librarian:

Sue invited members using the library to help dust the books occasionally. Any time you have to help with the dusting will be greatly appreciated. Small hand held dusters are available.

Historian: Faye

Photographer: Faye will take pictures at the program today.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Ideas for developing genealogy classes were discussed. It's the general consensus that offering classes would bring value to the organization and help draw even more interest.

Dorothy works at the Family History Center in Eugene and the question she is asked frequently is "How do I get started". Offering some classes in beginning genealogy would be helpful to many, especially newer members. Another idea was to offer family history writing classes to help get members started writing their own genealogy. Do we offer classes in 2 hour blocks? What day and time would be best? Many other ideas about genealogy classes were expressed.

A small group of members were interested in teaching classes.

Other

Ted explained that next week is important because of all the presidents' birthdays. Then he let us know that he will be celebrating his 92nd birthday very soon. Way to Go Ted!

Next Meetings

Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 10:00am in the Philomath Community Library

General Meeting: Saturday, April 11, 10:00am in the church social hall, program at 11:00am.

Adjournment to Program

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Olsen, Secretary