

INGHAM COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Meeting Date: November 10, 2005

GUEST SPEAKER:

The meeting was called to order by President David Held who introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Kathleen Weessies representing Michigan State University Map Library. Ms. Weessies gave an overview of the holdings at the Map Library which serves as the regional federal depository for over 249,000 maps. The library also has two different types of gazetteers. The first provides town histories; the second lists the town and gives the latitude and longitude of various state/city/town locations. There library also has a collection of platt books and old city maps. Maps are available not only of Michigan, but most continents and countries.

Unique to the Michigan State Map collection are Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps dating from 1867 to 1970. These maps were prepared by the insurance company and shows actual building locations for many cities.

The map library is located on the MSU Campus, 3rd floor of the Library. The hours of operation vary through the academic year.

BUSINESS MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by President David Held. 28 members attended the meeting.

Secretarial Minutes: Alice Raatz prepared the minutes from the October 13, 2005 meeting. There were no questions or changes to the minutes and motion was made to accept the minutes and Paul Roney seconded the motion. Motion to accept the minutes as presented was carried.

Treasurer Report: Marge James presented an outline for the society budget for the coming year. President Held said the budget was estimated based on previous years funding needs, but would be open for revision mid-year. Norm Osborne asked about the funding for fund raising items. President Held explained that if money was needed during the year, the money could be spent on items or promotional materials which would be used to generate money. John Castle led a discussion of using the funds collected for the Microfilm Printer/Reader to prepare CD copies of township records. Technology is moving away from Microfilm to CD (compact disc media) and the costs for CD preparation and duplication of records was cheaper, faster, and easily indexed. Marge James reported that \$22.00 was collected in the microfilm reader jar for November. Sam Pardee made a motion to approve the creation of the CD's and the Treasurer's Report, Harry Warner seconded the motion and it was carried.

President Report: David Held listed the upcoming society events and speakers for the following months:

December: Society Christmas Party

January: Open Forum
February: Speaker from the Library of Michigan to talk about passenger lists
March: Sam Pardee, beginning genealogy
April: Mary Griffiths, LDS library holdings
May: Open
June: Shirley Hodges, topic to be determined
July: Society Picnic
August: Open
September: Election of Officers
October: Induction of Officers

The Vice President, Harry Warner, will have to find speakers for May, July, September and October.

Trustees: No report.

Membership Secretary: Jean Crawford indicated that there was one new member, 123 total members, and 39 members have not renewed membership.

Librarian: Isabelle Wells distributed the sign-up sheet for the library resource room. Since re-opening the reference room has been very busy. Isabelle said that the Clinton County Genealogy Society is celebrating the 166th anniversary of Clinton County by preparing family certificates for descendants of early Clinton County settlers. There are two types of certificates available: settlers prior to 1865, and those that came between 1865 and 1899. The certificates are available for \$15.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Social: Barb Smith

MGC: Sam Pardee reported on Senate Bill 795. Sam was a speaker on the senate floor giving testimony for the need to have access to correct state death records. A copy of the speech is available from Sam. Sam and Mark Mason of the Jewish Society of Detroit met with Senator George from Kalamazoo to discuss the importance of allowing the public access to state death records. There will not be a board meeting in December. The next meeting will be held in January, 2006.

Publications: John Castle discussed putting the Williamston Enterprise newspapers on CD, in searchable format, for sale like the Unlocking Locke CD. John said that he met with a company that will convert 4 reels of microfilmed 1886 to 1899 Williamston newspapers (approximately 3,000 pages) onto a CD for \$300. Two copies of the CD will be made, one for the society and one for back-up and storage. The society copy can produce multiple CD's which can be sold for \$25 each and has the potential for being very profitable for the society. There was a lot of discussion on this which was eventually resolved by taking the matter up with the Executive Committee for review and recommendation.

Newsletter: Barb Smith the next newsletter will be distributed in January. If anyone has anything to contribute, please let Barb know.

Social: Barb Smith indicated that cookies were not needed at the next meeting since the annual Society Christmas Pot Luck will be held in December.

Historian: Alice Raatz was not in attendance, no report.

Computers: Greg James had nothing new to report.

New Business: President Held indicated that a Publicity and Corresponding Secretary are still need for the society and he is looking for volunteers to fill those slots.

Old Business: Lynn Castle discussed the Christmas Party. Everyone is to bring a dish to pass and their own tableware. Set-up will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to bring canned goods for distribution to a charity. Norm Osborne suggested that personal care articles are also needed and not to bring perishable items. Everyone is asked to bring a family-related article to share with the group such as pictures of old buildings, post cards, letters, family books or histories, or baptismal certificates. Delores Monroe offered to bring Wassail to drink.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on Sunday, November 13 at 3:00 p.m. at John and Lynn Castle's home.

A motion was made by Isabelle Wells to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.