

ICGS Meeting October 12, 2006

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary, Cathy Morse

President David Held called the meeting to order at 7:08. There were 36 in attendance, 34 members and 2 visitors.

GUEST SPEAKER

The guest speaker was Shirley G. Hodges whose topic was “Newspapers: A Pot of Gold.” Newspapers hold a variety of information including: church affiliations, associations, where people lived, police blotters, gossip columns, merchant advertisements, election results, local and national disasters, new arrivals to a community, and court proceedings. When using newspaper articles as documentation for research, it is important to always review the article and give it the logic test of: who, what, when, where, and why. Remember to cite the source by including the title of the newspaper, where it was published, the date, page, and column location.

BUSINESS MEETING

After Shirley’s presentation, she swore in the new officers:

President: Harry Warner
Vice President: David Held
Treasurer: Marjorie James
Librarian: Isabelle Wells
Membership Secretary: Jean Crawford
Recording Secretary: Cathy Morse
Trustees Pete Phelps and Delores Monroe were absent.

President Warner called the membership meeting to order at 8:25 p.m. Norm Osborn held the 50/50 drawing which was won by Phyllis Bogle. The society winnings were \$12.00.

Harry Warner asked for approval of the minutes from the August 17, 2006 meeting. A motion for approval was made by John Castle and seconded by Norm Osborn.

There were two corrections to the September 14, 2006 minutes. The first was to change “CD Digital record preservation” to “Digital Record Translation Fund,” the second was to correct a misspelling of “Begrining Genealogical” to “Beginning Genealogical”. With the changes noted, Norm Osborn moved to accept the minutes and David Held seconded the motion.

OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurers Report: Marge James presented her yearly profit and loss report and answered questions from Tammy Parsons regarding the monthly and Year To Date amounts. A motion was made by David Held to accept the report and was seconded by Tammy Parsons.

Newsletter: Barb Smith said that she would no longer be preparing the newsletter as it was going to be published electronically and on the website now.

Vice President: David Held reminded the members that the next monthly meeting would be held on THIRD Thursday of the month, November 16, due to the township needing the hall for the November 7, 2006 election. The Eaton County Genealogical Society will be hosting a trip to the Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana on November 4. On Saturday October 14, the Library of Michigan/Michigan Genealogical Council will host a seminar with John Castle and Shirley Hodges among the guest speakers.

The Executive Board will be moving forward to post the newsletter on the IngCoGeneSoc.org website as opposed to mailing it. Members will be notified when the newsletter is posted while those without computers will be mailed a copy. This will save money in postage and printing costs.

Congratulations go out to the Sam and Joan Pardee on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Recording Secretary: Cathy Morse had nothing new to report.

Treasurer: Marge James reported that \$34.25 had been collected in the Digital Record Translation Fund jar.

Membership Secretary: Jean Crawford was in Italy. In her absence, Lynn Castle read a letter received from Walt and Valdeen Warren giving information on Walt's health. Lynn encouraged members to send them a card or note.

Librarian: Isabelle Wells reported that on Saturday, October 7, in the Stockbridge Oak Lawn Cemetery, actors would be dressing up as local people and giving a "tour" of the cemetery. Beginning the first of the month, the Library of Michigan will be giving free classes. On August 15 to the 18, 2007, the Federation of Genealogical Societies will be holding a meeting at the Allen County Public Library on various topics. Sign-up sheets are available. Isabelle passed around a sign-up sheet for help at the library on Tuesdays.

Trustees: Nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Michigan Council: Tammy Parsons stated that over 200 death certificates are being researched each day on over 300 rolls of films. JoAnne Harvey has asked that death certificates beyond 1920 be made available to the public, but the chance of that is minimal due to limited resources in manpower, time, and money.

Social Committee: Barb Smith had nothing new to report.

Computers: Greg James indicated that the computer and printer are working properly and that the webpage would be updated for new members.

Publications: John Castle recognized Barb Smith for her work as newsletter editor for the past 10 years. She provided a valuable service to the society and her hard work and dedication was appreciated.

The sale of the Williamston Newspaper CD was doing well. The CD is searchable, can be viewed by page or column, can be cropped and printed from the desk. At \$30 a set the society is making money from the effort. It is hoped that all the societies microfilm could be put on CD in the future. The society has copies of the Ingham County Democrat from 1876 to 1915. An effort is underway by Harry Warner, John Castle and Julie Carr to index the first 25 years of the newspaper (over 500 pages) into a computer database.

Historian: Alice Ratz was not in attendance.

Old Business: Nothing to discuss.

New Business: At the last Executive Board meeting, after a review of the by-laws, it was suggested that discussion by the membership take place to determine how many society meetings should be held during the year. Sometimes it becomes difficult to hold monthly meetings because of storms, availability of speakers and/or the township hall. Vice President Held led a discussion on the need to hold monthly society meetings. After much discussion, a motion was made to leave the required number of meetings open. David Held will prepare a revised copy of Article 6, Section 2 for review at the next meeting. Tammy Parsons made a motion to accept this decision and Sam Pardee seconded it.

Norm Osborn will prepare a turkey for the December Christmas dinner.

Barb Smith made a motion to adjourn and Tammy Parsons seconded it.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.