

**Larimer County Genealogical Society
General Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2006
Harmony Library
Harmony and Shields Street
Fort Collins
Community Room**

President Ken Goldsberry cowbelled the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. He then proceeded to introduce the guests who were attending. These included: Kelly Hanna, Carol Tomerlin, Kent and Mary Grimsby, Darby, and Steven Annonson. Ken welcomed them all and invited them to join the Society.

Question and Answer Scuttle

Next Ken explained the Question and Answer scuttle to everyone. This is a coal bucket in which members and/or guests may deposit questions they want answered. Hopefully, other members will be able to supply answers. For example, a question was in the scuttle concerning cousin relationships. Someone wanted to know how to tell when to use “once removed” and how to determine the degree of cousin relationship. Birdie Holsclaw, who was present as guest speaker, explained that the distance from the common ancestor determines cousinship. For example, people with the same great-grandfather would be second cousins. The “once removed” comes into play when cousins are from different generations. This means that the children of my first cousin would be first cousins once removed to me.

Genealogy Gems

Ken then requested members to tell any genealogy gems that had occurred during the previous month.

Kathy Patrick reported that she has been finding cousins she never knew existed. Most of them didn't know each other either and are now making connections late in life – in their 80s and 90s. She reported how excited these elderly people are to make these contacts.

Cathi Smith reported that visiting those distant cousins can pay off. She visited one of her husband Paul's cousins and found tintypes which she was able to copy.

Fran Ek reminded members to not overlook local areas, even though they may think they have no close-by relatives. Fran found a website dealing with her family and was amazed to find that some branches actually live in Livermore!

Ken Goldsberry reported on finding information on the Colorado Historic Newspaper Project website. He was able to find a good deal of information on the Ingleside Quarry which was north of Fort Collins.

Ken further reported that he had recently received a great price when renewing with Ancestry.com. He suggested that members check to see what kind of deals Ancestry will provide; it can't hurt to ask.

Recycle Table

Ken explained the recycle table to any newcomers. This is a program whereby members can donate unwanted genealogy books, periodicals, software, etc. The Society then places the items on the recycle table at general meetings for other members to purchase. Proceeds benefit the Society. Cathi Smith is in charge of the recycle table; in addition, she is keeping a Society scrapbook, which members can view at any

meeting. Ken encouraged members to donate items and to shop the table before and after the meeting, as well as during the break.

At this point a break was taken for treats and conversation.

Guest Speaker

After the break, Vice President Len Ray introduced the guest speaker, Birdie Monk Holsclaw. Birdie's topic was "Getting the Most from the BLM Homestead Database." The attached notes detail Birdie's presentation.

Birdie explained several features of the BLM Homestead Database that may be new to many members. For example, she suggested that researchers use the Standard Search tab to make their searches. This feature will allow a researcher to search for an ancestor's homestead throughout all the states at once, rather than by each state individually.

Another interesting search feature Birdie explained was the use of the Warrantee and Patentee searches. Many members were not aware that the Warrantee and Patentee could be two different people. The Patentee is the person who finally got the land, but the Warrantee might be the person who got a warrant for land through military service. Searches for both Patentee and Warrantee can be useful.

After her presentation Birdie answered questions concerning various aspects of the BLM Database.

Business Meeting

Following the speaker, a short business meeting was held. Various officers and committee chairs presented their reports.

Vice President's Report

Vice President Len Ray reported that the next general meeting will be held on November 9. Duane Kniebes will present a talk on his work in searching for small cemeteries throughout Larimer County.

Len further reported that the Society has reserved the Community Room at the Harmony Library for its meetings through 2007. At the rate the Society is growing, by 2008 arrangements may need to be made to secure a larger meeting venue. Len requested that members let him know if they are aware of possible meeting sites for the future.

Minutes

Recording Secretary Carol Stetser reported that general meeting minutes are posted on the Society website. In addition, paper copies are available at each general meeting.

Education and Outreach

Education and Outreach Chairperson Dolores Ray reported on an upcoming workshop called, "New Dimensions in Publishing", which will be held at the Harmony Library on November 11 (see attached). This will present alternatives to publishing a complete book and will be a repeat of an earlier program presented in Loveland. After the workshop, if interest warrants, several workshops may be held dealing with the types of software used to publish these alternatives to books.

In addition, Dolores reported that another Girl Scout Workshop will be held in March or April of 2007. This will involve girls from Berthoud, Loveland and Estes Park. Volunteers will be needed, so members may want to keep this workshop in mind.

Newsletter

Newsletter Editor Bob Larson reported that the electronic delivery of the newsletter seems to be working out well. The next issue of the newsletter will be published in November.

Membership

Temporary Chair Bob Larson indicated that the Society now has 154 members. The Society continues to grow! Bob also encouraged members to remember to return their membership badges at the end of the meeting.

Family Tree Maker Users' Group

Coordinator Bob Larson reminded members that the next meeting of the group will be on October 25 at Harmony Library. It will be the final meeting of 2006 and will cover publishing.

Finally, Bob reminded everyone that the Cheyenne Genealogy Jamboree will be held October 20 and 21. There is still time to register; registration is even available for Saturday only, if anyone is interested.

Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies Representative Report

Representative Marilyn Rudd stated that the Council meeting held in Fort Collins on October 14 went well.

Hospitality

Hospitality Chair Marge Abrames indicated that she needs several volunteers to provide treats for the November meeting. Several people immediately volunteered.

President's Remarks

Ken reminded members that there will be no Society meeting in December. Last December the Board and Chairpersons met for a holiday dinner during December and enjoyed it so much that they would like to invite all interested members to get together sometime in early December for a "pay your own way" dinner. Ken asked for a show of hands concerning interest; most raised their hands in favor of such a dinner. The Board will select a date and location; further details will be forthcoming.

Finally, Ken reminded members that the Society is "their society". It will only work if the members contribute to it. The Society is growing, which means more obligations accrue. There will be more need for committee chairs, committee members, at-large board members and other volunteers. Ken encouraged members to consider volunteering for some of these positions. For example, Bob Larson is stepping down as Newsletter Editor. He will help a replacement step into his position, but a new editor is needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

