

Larimer County Genealogical Society
General Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2007
Harmony Library
Harmony and Shields Street
Fort Collins
Community Room

President Ken Goldsberry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and proposed the attached agenda. Ken announced that members Boyd and Gwen Johnson have given the Society a subscription to *Reminisce*, a magazine full of articles and stories about times gone by. Ken stated that the magazine will be made available for members to peruse; he circulated several copies for members to look over.

Genealogy Gems/Questions and Answers

Ken explained that Genealogy Gems were great genealogy finds that members had found during the last month that they would like to share with others. He also reminded everyone that a Q & A scuttle is present at every meeting if members wished to submit questions. Ken himself asked a question about finding a death date for someone who probably died relatively recently and is not listed in the Social Security Death Index. Several members made some suggestions for finding the person.

Recycle Table/Publications

Cathi Smith reported that the Recycle Table has several new publications and some videos available for purchase as well as some Family Tree Maker software.

Hap Hazard described books that are available from Publications that pertain to Larimer County. He also reminded everyone that the Society has a small lending library of videos and CDs on various genealogy topics that members may borrow.

Holiday Adventure Dinner

Ken reminded members that the Society will be holding its annual holiday dinner on December 6 at the Golden Corral in Fort Collins. He passed around a clipboard so that members could indicate if they planned to attend.

Visitors/New Members

Ken introduced visitors and new members and welcomed them to the Society. Carol Diaczun was a visitor and Lew Carder joined the Society this evening.

Cheyenne Library Presentation

Robert Larson gave a slide presentation on the new library which has recently opened in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The library is modern and seems to be very user-friendly. Everyone was especially impressed by the new genealogy room which includes movable shelves to allow for additional books in the future.

At this point a break for refreshments and conversation was taken. Immediately following the break, Ken announced that Hap Hazard had tickets to several Colorado State University sporting events that he

would like to donate to the Society. Ken suggested that members talk with Hap about the tickets and suggested they make a donation to the Society for them.

Guest Speaker

Vice President Len Ray introduced the evening's speaker, Lissa Ann Forbes. Lissa's program was entitled "What's Behind the Photograph?" Lissa showed several photos of her own family and asked members to indicate what they knew about the subjects of the photos. After some discussion concerning time period, age of subjects, etc., it became obvious that it's impossible to know exactly the circumstances of a photo after its subjects have passed on.

Because of this, Lissa suggested that everyone might want to examine their own photos and write about them. She further suggested making books containing the photos and stories and presenting them to family members. She briefly outlined a process that she has developed for doing just that.

After her talk, Lissa remained to answer questions and to sell copies of her book (see attached information).

Business Meeting

Minutes of Last Meeting

Recording Secretary Carol Stetser stated that minutes of all meetings are available on the Society website.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mary Joy Hauk reported that the Society bank balance is presently \$1419.69. She further stated that the Recycle Table earned over \$200 for the Society during 2007.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee composed of Marilyn Rudd, Sonny Hygh and Barbara Sullivan recently met and nominated people for various Society offices.

Treasurer – Paul Smith
Recording Secretary – Carol Stetser
Corresponding Secretary – Gordon Hazard
At-Large Director – Ceil Damschroder

At present, no one has volunteered to become Vice President, but Ken urged members to consider taking over the position.

Sonny Hygh moved that the Nominating Committee report be accepted. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Education Committee

Bob Larson has agreed to head the Education Committee. Bob reported that the committee will be meeting on Friday morning to discuss possible programs for 2008. The committee will be working to implement programs that it, and the members themselves, determine would be beneficial. He thanked

outgoing committee chair Dolores Ray for all of her hard work in organizing and heading the committee for the last several years. Through her efforts a number of very worthwhile and well-attended workshops and seminars have been presented.

Newsletter

Newsletter Editor Bob Larson thanked Julia Hillen, who distributes the newsletter, and Kareen Whatly, who publishes the newsletter, for all of their hard work during 2007 in helping produce and disseminate a quality newsletter.

Archival/Photographer

Sonny Hygh has agreed to take over chairmanship of the Archival Committee. Sonny, in his dual role as Society photographer, announced that if any members want their pictures (if they have not already been taken) to appear in the Society Membership Directory they should contact him during the evening.

Hospitality

Ken reminded members to be sure to sign up for the Holiday Adventure dinner. He also mentioned that a helper or two would be needed for the evening of the dinner. Hap told the Society that volunteering for any of the Society committees, projects and/or functions is important if the Society is to function well.

Publicity

Jeff Topel has volunteered to help Kathy Patrick with the Publicity Committee.

Website

Len Ray suggested that members check the Society website occasionally to make sure that all the links are working and that everything is up-to-date.

He also explained that the Society has an affiliate program with Amazon.com which allows the Society to receive a commission on all items sold by Amazon when members access Amazon through the Society website.

Genealogy Gems

Several members related stories of great finds they'd made recently. Hap Hazard described taking photos of graves at Grandview Cemetery which he posted on the website Find-a-Grave. He has helped people find long-lost relatives; it feels great to help someone else, he explained.

Carol Stetser described searching for collateral relatives and finding a distant cousin who inherited many family photos. She recommended researchers always check on those collateral relatives. Roger Wood expanded on the idea by stating that he was the one who inherited the photos in his family; he is now sharing them with distant cousins.

Book Drawing

Guest Speaker Lissa Forbes held a drawing for one of her books, which she promised to autograph.

Grady Kane was the lucky winner.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.