

**Larimer County Genealogical Society
General Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2008
Harmony Library
Harmony and Shields Street
Fort Collins
Community Room**

President Ken Goldsberry welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6:30 pm. He presented the attached agenda.

President Goldsberry introduced and welcomed visitors to the meeting. The visitors included Kathy Cappell, Jim Austin, Jean Miles, Steve Wiesbicki, Marge Zito and Dick Anderson. Ken encouraged all visitors to join the Society.

Genealogy Gems

Ken told the members of his experience using Message Boards. He had posted a query concerning photos of an ancestral area several years ago. Recently someone wrote and told him of numerous photos of the area of which he will be able to get copies.

Cathi Smith reported that she and Paul recently attended a genealogy conference in St. George, Utah. They learned a great deal, including that Ancestry.com has a new database consisting of voter registration records for California. Paul reported that World Vital Records is available for \$49 per year. It has a great collection of small town records as well as newspapers.

Linda Gehring reported that Message Boards are a great resource for genealogists. She recently found a great deal of information about her great grandmother on one of them.

Nancy Abrahams mentioned that the latest issue of the NEHGS magazine has an article about Google Books and Google Scholar which are very useful to genealogists. Carol Stetser reported that she frequently uses Google Books to find information about books which contain information about her ancestors. As a follow-up, Ken mentioned that Google Earth is another great source for genealogists which helps locate ancestral farms and homes, etc.

Nadine Gates reported that Lissa Ann Forbes, who presented a program to the Society last fall, will be presenting a workshop on May 12 on learning to write your own life story.

Pat Walker, who works at the Local History Archive in Fort Collins, informed members that the Archive has weekend hours on Saturday and Sunday. She encouraged anyone who has local ancestors to visit the Archives.

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

Guest Speaker

DAR member Pat Johnson was scheduled to speak on the history of the Daughters of the Revolution as well as using DAR records for genealogical research. Due to Pat's recent surgery, Martha Rehm, another DAR member, presented the program (see attached handout).

Martha began with a short history of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The DAR, which began in 1890, has two chapters in Larimer County.

The program then segued into a discussion of various DAR records that are available to the public. There are three types of records which are all available through the DAR website at <http://dar.org>. The three types of records are DAR Patriot Lookup, Record Copy Service and GRC National Index. The DAR Patriot Lookup can help family historians (including those not members of DAR) to find out if their ancestor was a patriot during the American Revolution. If an ancestor is determined to have been a patriot, the other two types of records can be used to find much historical information about the person. These three types of records can be accessed online, but the DAR Library in Washington, D.C. is another great source of information, if genealogists have a chance to visit, which is also available to non-DAR members.

Martha concluded her talk by stating that researching and submitting patriot records in order to join the DAR is one way to ensure that records will be preserved and available for future researchers.

Business Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Paul Smith reported that the Society bank balance is presently \$2713.

Education

Education Chair Bob Larson stated that the next newsletter will contain information about upcoming workshops and programs.

He further introduced Dora Hildebrand, a Society member who is involved with the Spellbinders' Group. Dora explained that the group is sponsoring a series of programs to teach seniors to tell their stories to their families. Dora recommended anyone who is interested to contact her.

Basement Bookshelf

Roger Long, Program Chair, reviewed the Basement Bookshelf program and stated that a list of books, that members are willing to do lookups in, are on the Society website. He reminded members that he has forms for anyone who hasn't submitted their book lists; he encourages everyone to submit their book lists. He also encouraged everyone to check out the lists for books they may be interested in getting information from.

Hospitality

Hospitality Chair Carrie Graves thanked everyone who has provided treats. She may need volunteers in the future.

Mentor Program

Carol Stetser and Sharon Koleber reported that twelve people have volunteered to be mentors. All of them are experienced family historians who should do a good job. Anyone who needs a mentor should contact Sharon. Her contact information will be in the next newsletter and will be on periodic emails to the members (see handout).

Publications

Publications Chair Gordon Hazard recommended that everyone visit the Society website to see what publications are available and to obtain information for ordering them.

Publicity

Publicity Chair Kathy Patrick reported that another Girl Scout Heritage workshop is coming up in April. The program is organized, but she will need some volunteers to help on the day of the program. She will be soliciting volunteers in an upcoming email.

Website

Len Ray suggested that everyone visit the Society website; he also recommended that, if anyone is planning on any purchases from Amazon.com, they go through the Society website. The purchaser will notice no difference in his transaction, but if Amazon is accessed through the Society website, a portion of the price will be given to the Society as part of the Affiliate program.

Announcements

Cemetery Stroll

The 2008 cemetery stroll at Grandview Cemetery is being sponsored by the Fort Collins DAR chapter. LCGS has agreed to help the DAR by providing actors, guides, etc. Members who are interested should contact Carolyn Goodwin.

FTM Users Group

Bob Larson reminded everyone that the Family Tree Maker Users Group will be meeting at the Harmony Library on February 27.

Everton's Genealogical Helper

Ken Goldsberry reported that the magazine "Everton's Genealogical Helper" is offering a special subscription price of \$19.95 per year. The offer is good through March 30.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.