

**Larimer County Genealogical Society  
General Meeting Minutes  
May 15, 2008  
Harmony Library  
Harmony and Shields Street  
Fort Collins  
Community Room**

Due to the absence of President Ken Goldsberry, Robert Larson conducted the meeting. He welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6:30 pm.

**Business Meeting**

**Membership Directory**

Membership Directory Editor Bob Larson reported that the 2008 Membership Directory is now available. Bob reminded everyone that the 2007 Membership Directory should be destroyed, as soon as members obtain their 2008 directory, so that no personal information is disseminated to anyone other than members.

Bob recommended that members check the Membership Directory and the Society website to obtain information on two new Society programs: Basement Bookshelf and Mentor Program. Bob gave a brief overview of the two programs and reminded members that these two programs are part of the benefits members receive.

Bob further informed everyone that the 2008 Directory also lists classes available to members, and non-members, including Ceil Damschroder's genealogy classes which will be held in Loveland and Fort Collins this fall. The directory also lists research facilities and their genealogical holdings in the area.

**Education**

Education Chair Bob Larson announced that Paul Smith will be holding a workshop on May 17 on Irfanview (see attached handout).

**Victorian Sunday in the Park**

The Fort Collins Library, in conjunction with various historical organizations in the area, will be presenting a program called Victorian Sunday in the Park on June 8 (see attached handout). The event will include various old-fashioned types of entertainment including a Barbershop Quartet and various vintage games which will be of interest to the whole family. The Society will be sponsoring a table where volunteers will explain what the Society does and benefits of membership.

**Ancestry.com Announcement**

Bob Larson stated that Ancestry.com is planning several new databases and enhancements to their website. The attached handout details some of these upcoming improvements.

### **Basement Bookshelf**

Bookshelf Coordinator Roger Long provided the attached handout for anyone who wishes to have their books included on the Bookshelf list. The list of books in which people will do lookups is available on the Society website.

Roger also requested that people check the booklist, which is online at the Society website, for errors. He has proofed the listing, but, since they are not his books, an error may have slipped by.

### **Publications**

Publications Chair Hap Hazard reiterated that the Society Lending Library has several how-to genealogy videos available for members to borrow. In addition, he has printed Society cards which members may want to take and hand out to interested persons.

### **Membership**

The Society gained one new member at the meeting: Beverly Campbell.

### **Visitors**

Gene O'Connell announced a list of visitors including Howard Coppel, Jim and Shirley Morey, Jan Hayzlett, Ruth Braemer, Harlan Fretheim, Larry Doyle, Marta Aguayo and Abbye Silverstein. Everyone welcomed them to the meeting.

### **Newsletter**

Editor Bob Larson reported that the May/June issue of the newsletter has been sent, and all members should have received their copies.

### **Recycle Table**

Recycle Table Chair Cathi Smith invited all visitors to check out the Recycle Table and offered each of them a free magazine. She further announced that the table presently has a lot of great genealogy magazines available for only \$.25.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Paul Smith presented a brief report (see attached). He stated that the Society bank balance is presently \$3137.90.

## **Recording Secretary's Report**

Secretary Carol Stetser reported that all Society Minutes are posted on the Society website. They are also available at all meetings if members wish to read them.

## **Societies Representative**

Societies Representative Marilyn Rudd announced that she would like to recruit an alternate for those times that she cannot attend meetings. If anyone is interested, please contact Marilyn.

## **Hospitality**

Hospitality Chair Carrie Graves announced that she is trying to find the best way to serve the coffee and other treats. It is a work in progress, so if anyone has suggestions, she would be glad to hear them. She also thanked those who have brought goodies in the past and those who brought treats to this evening's meeting. A clipboard was circulated for volunteers to sign if they were able to bring treats to the next meeting.

## **Need for Volunteers**

Hap Hazard, on behalf of the Board, announced that the Society is still looking for someone to assume the position of Vice President. He stated that the Society will only be successful if everyone gets involved. He further noted that some committees still need committee members. He suggested that everyone check the new Membership Directory to see what committees the Society presently has. If anyone can serve on any of the committees, they should contact the various committee chairs. Additional volunteers are always welcome.

## **Small Group Meetings**

Sonny Hygh stated that he feels that some members may not feel comfortable discussing their genealogical brick walls and successes with the entire group. He suggests that perhaps members might form themselves into small groups of perhaps three to five people to work together.

## **New Facilities Needed**

Hap Hazard reported that it is obvious that the Society is rapidly outgrowing the Community Room at the Harmony Library. He requested all members to consider alternative possibilities and to let the Board know if they know of any.

Bob Larson then reported that the Society has a special partnership with the libraries in Loveland and Fort Collins. Because of this, the Society enjoys nearly unlimited use of the various facilities.

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

### **Guest Speaker**

Bob Larson introduced the evening's speaker, Joyce Lohse. Her topic was "Researching Passenger Lists without Falling Overboard." See the attached sheet for more information.

Although the program was geared specifically to German passenger lists, much of the information is useful to anyone looking for passenger lists from anywhere. Passenger lists can be difficult to find; in fact, Joyce stated they are like "looking for a needle in a haystack", but she presented ways in which that "needle" can sometimes be identified.

Following her presentation, a question and answer period followed in which members not only asked questions about their own research but gave some different ideas concerning how to research passenger lists.

Since Joyce is also an author of historical books on Colorado women, she brought several of them and made them available for purchase after her talk.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.