

Larimer County Genealogical Society
General Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2009
Harmony Library
Harmony and Shields Street
Fort Collins
Community Room

President Bob Larson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. He presented the attached agenda. Bob welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded them that the Recycle and Publications Tables have some useful and interesting materials that members and visitors should check out during the break.

A break for refreshments and conversation was taken at this point.

Business Meeting

Introduction of Visitors

After the break, Bob once again welcomed everyone and introduced visitors. These included Sharon Lundt, Carl Brunning, Susie Doyle, Clay and Gloria Jones and Robert Manbeck. Bob thanked them for attending and encouraged them to join the Society.

Need for Volunteers

Bob reported that the Society is looking for volunteers for Newsletter Editor, Education Chair and Publications Chair. He circulated a clipboard for members to sign if they are interested in any of these positions.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Paul Smith reported that the Society bank balance is currently \$3408.00. Paul also reported that he could use some help in preparing and sending out financial reports. If anyone is willing to help, Paul suggested that he/she contact him.

Genealogy on the Internet

Bob reported that a workshop on doing genealogy on the internet will be coming up in April. He circulated a clipboard for anyone to sign if they are interested in attending.

Wyoming Newspaper Articles

Bob stated that the Wyoming Digitized Newspaper project will be uploading Wyoming newspapers dated 1849-1922. The first segment of the project will be online starting in April.

Study Groups

Boyd Johnson reported that he and his wife Gwen have held both evening and daytime study group meetings in Loveland. Anyone who is interested in attending can contact him. Sonny Hygh is organizing some similar groups in Fort Collins. Sonny can be contacted via email.

Colorado Expo

Bob informed everyone that plans for the June 12-13 Family History Expo are being finalized. Anyone interested can now pre-register online. Information on classes and presenters will also soon be available online.

WYCO Family History Library Trip

Plans for a joint Wyoming/Colorado genealogy trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City are nearly ready. The trip is scheduled for September 20-27. See the attached brochure for further information.

Guest Speaker

Carol Stetser introduced the evening's speaker, Judy Emmett. Her presentation was entitled "Puttin' Meat on Dem Bones".

Judy suggested that researchers could add interest to their family history research by using historical and anthropological studies. For example, she told the story of her husband's uncle in which she found an obituary for the uncle stating that he'd died of a gunshot wound in Chicago during the 1920s. This led her to study the historical milieu of the era, including Prohibition and the rise of gangsters such as Al Capone, and her uncle's connection to these historical events. All of this added a great deal to her story of the uncle's life and times.

In addition to historical context, Judy suggested using anthropological insights to help enhance family history. For example, she stated that people often immigrated with others from their villages and towns. These groups usually kept their native customs for a generation or two, depending on where they settled. Generally, people in larger towns and cities assimilated more quickly than those who settled in more rural areas. This anthropological fact may help family historians put their own family research into perspective and lead to new avenues for research.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.