

**CAPITAL AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**for 2002**

**January 13, 2002**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held January 13, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.. Nineteen members and guests were present.

Esther Richwine read the minutes of the December meeting taken by Acting Secretary Charlotte Lotz. Esther stated that CAGS plans to go to the Hummelstown Historical Society the third Sunday in May. Esther discussed mail CAGS has received, including the Berks County Genealogical Society newsletter.

Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, a copy of which is on file with these minutes. Freda Yocum read the audit report.

Everyone introduced themselves. Pete Hartwell gave a slide presentation on the Hummelstown brownstone quarry.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

**February 10, 2002**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held February 10, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

President Richwine passed around a sign-in sheet. 27 people signed the sheet, but Bob Viguers did a head count and estimated that 40 members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the January meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, as follows: Since our January meeting, we've had 9 memberships – 2 new members and 7 renewals – for a total of \$135, which was deposited to savings. Our checking balance is \$382.52 and savings is \$1,661.24. We have 56 members to date this year. President Richwine asked for any committee reports; there were none.

President Richwine made announcements including: Berks County Genealogical Society's May 4<sup>th</sup> workshop focusing on female ancestors, Perry Historians' search for the parents of Frances Shellenberger, York County Historical Society's search for McCord ancestors, and York County Heritage Society's 2-week trip to Europe. She also announced that: A CAGS

directory is now available; "Even More Palatine Families" has just been published, with a cost of \$195; and the "National Book of Funeral Directors" is now available.

Charlotte Lotz announced that she and Molly Ulsh delivered a full set of quarterlies to the East Shore Area Library. Full sets are also available at Derry Township, the Dauphin County Historical Society, and the Hummelstown Historical Society.

President Richwine asked the Kipps, co-presidents of the Palmyra Genealogical Society, if any plans have been made for a joint picnic in July. They answered that none have as yet. President Richwine announced that the CAGS May meeting will be a trip to the Hummelstown Historical Society museum and library.

The Kipps announced that Palmyra's February meeting will feature Sherry Uhaus speaking about Orphan's Court records, and March's speaker will be Dan Purdy discussing the Scotch/Irish. Our speaker, Linda Ries, announced the PHMC Family History Afternoon Sunday March 10.

Linda Ries, a Commonwealth Speaker for the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, presented a program entitled "Preserving Your Visual Heritage: Photography".

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **March 10, 2002**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held March 10, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Thirteen members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the February meeting. Dave Kipp clarified that the Palmyra Genealogical Society's March speaker will be Lynnea Miller, and the April program will be on the Scotch/Irish. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, as follows: Since our January meeting, we've had 3 memberships for a total of \$45, and sold one Willow Grove Cemetery book for \$9. We had no expenses. Our checking balance is \$382.52 and savings is \$1,716.63. We have 59 members to date this year, considerably fewer than last year.

Helen Foreman noted that our May visit to the Hummelstown Historical Society will begin at our regular meeting time: 2:30.

Dave Kipp reported that he inquired, on behalf of the Palmyra Society, into holding a picnic at Indiantown Gap, and was told that the cost is \$55. Marion O'Neal stated that there are two pavilions at Indiantown Gap.

President Richwine noted that there will be an Executive Committee meeting at 1:30 p.m. on the day of our regular April meeting.

Charlotte Lotz stated that her daughter is willing to get together with someone to show us how to update a website, but that she's not available on Sundays. Molly Ulsh volunteered to do that.

Marion O'Neal asked whether there is anything we should be doing to increase our membership. It was stated that Bob Viguers sent reminders. Marion will check with Bob.

J. Douglas Richwine of the Boyertown Salvation Army spoke to the group about the history of the Salvation Army and his experiences with the Salvation Army in New York City after the Sept. 11th attacks.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **April 14, 2002**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held April 14, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Twenty-four members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the March meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, as follows: Since our March meeting, we've had 23 memberships for a total of \$345, which was deposited to savings. Sales of cemetery books totaled \$46.25, which was also deposited to savings, giving us a balance of \$2,110.63. Expenses were: March 15, Postmaster of Harrisburg, postage for the quarterlies - \$106.67; and March 22, Horton Printing for the quarterlies - \$160.00, leaving a checking balance of \$115.85. We have 81 members.

The possibility of holding meetings at the East Shore Library was brought up for discussion. Charlotte Lotz pointed out that the library is very crowded on weekends, with limited parking. Parking is available in the Colonial Park Mall lot, but anyone who parks there must climb quite a few stairs. It was decided that we would consider this possibility for a couple months before making a decision. Bob Viguers suggested the Civil War Museum as a meeting place, and Fort Hunter was also suggested. Marion O'Neal will check on Fort Hunter.

President Richwine announced a Genetics & Genealogy presentation at the Lancaster Family History Center on April 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Winnie Gould suggested that we e-mail the Patriot News to thank them for the additional information they're now putting in obituaries. Freda Yocum agreed to do that.

In preparation for our May visit to the Hummelstown Historical Society Museum, Ellis Simpson, museum curator, spoke about the museum's history and holdings.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **May, 2002**

No Minutes

## **June 9, 2002**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held June 9, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:38 p.m. Seventeen members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the April meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. In response to an item in the minutes, Treasurer Marion O'Neal stated that she checked on the cost to hold meetings at Fort Hunter: It's \$75 per meeting, even for non-profits. Treasurer O'Neal then read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

President Richwine thanked the Hummelstown Area Historical Society for hosting our May tour of their museum and Helen Foreman for furnishing the refreshments. She reminded everyone of our picnic on July 14, 1:00 p.m., at Indiantown Gap. She asked how many had seen a notice of our June meeting in a newspaper; only 3 had. She asked for suggestions for next year's picnic. She announced that our September meeting will feature a speaker from the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society.

Warren Wirebach announced that Fort Hunter was having some kind of genealogy event the following Saturday. He also announced that the Dauphin County Historical Society library now has 2 books on how to organize a black reunion and family group sheets for local black roots, and will have a print-out of stones in the Harrisburg Cemetery on film soon.

A panel discussion on how to begin your genealogical search, featuring panelists Helen Foreman, Bob Viguers, Freda Yocum, Jack Sonneborn, and moderator Molly Ulsh, was presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **July, 2002**

No Minutes

## August, 2002

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held August 11, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Twenty-six members and guests were present. (Dave Kipp counted twenty-eight.)

Everyone present introduced themselves. President Richwine thanked the Palmyra Area Genealogical Society and Helen Foreman for hosting the picnic in July, and asked for ideas for the 2003 picnic. Molly Ulsh suggested the Civil War Museum. President Richwine stated that a committee of three will be formed to arrange for the food in 2003 so that the whole burden isn't on Helen Foreman.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the June meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, as follows: Since our June meeting, we've had 2 memberships for a total of \$30, which was deposited to savings. Expenses were: June 27 - \$126.00 postage for the quarterlies, July 2 - \$3.32 for sales tax to the Dept. of Revenue, and July 12 - \$212.50 to Horton Printing for printing two quarterlies. We earned interest of \$1.51 on June 30 and \$1.58 on July 31. As of today's date, our checking balance is \$66.72 and savings is \$1,881.92.

President Richwine commented on all the reaction to our newspaper notice this month. She related that the retired employees of PPL asked for a speaker on genealogy and Molly Ulsh had volunteered. Also, the Senior Citizen News of Middletown asked for an article on the CAGS and monthly notices of meetings.

President Richwine announced that at the September meeting we will be naming three members to the nominating committee to come up with a slate of officers for next year. We will have a board meeting at 1:00 p.m. on the day of our October meeting.

Molly Ulsh suggested the Friendship Community Center for our monthly meetings. Jo Merowitz announced that the 1930 census is available at the state library, but the microfilm is not indexed, and the print is very bad on many counties.

President Richwine announced the Simon Gratz day on Saturday, October 21, with a giant yard sale, food, and tours of the museum. Treasurer O'Neal clarified that dues paid in November are good for the next year. Betty Himes shared with the group her pleasant experience recently with the Mormon Family History Center in York. She said they're nice to work with and have a lot on hand. Their phone number is 846-4539. President Richwine reminded the group that Jack Sonneborn from the York Family History Center will be our November speaker, and commented that the York County Historical Society and the archives of courthouse records are other good sources in York.

Edith Umholtz spoke to the group about the Williamstown Historical Society and the history of Williamstown, and her husband Ward gave an account of the history of coal mining in that area.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **September 8, 2002**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held September 8, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Eighteen members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the August meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. Treasurer Marion O'Neal then read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

President Richwine mentioned the cemetery unearthed during construction in Hershey. It contains the graves of 2 adults and 9 children. No decision had been made on what to do with the remains. (The family name was Hammacher.)

Mary McAllister, a volunteer with Senior Net, announced that she teaches computer courses to people over 50 at Rutherford House and is looking for a teacher for a computer course in genealogy.

Warren Wirebach announced that the Dauphin County Historical Society will have a genealogy workshop the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in November. It will be a "how-to" on preserving photos and historic houses.

Dave Kipp announced that the Palmyra Area Genealogical Society's speaker the following Tuesday would be Donald Rose.

Much to our surprise, a Mr. Ellis presented a program on the State Archives.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **October, 2002**

No Minutes

## **November 10, 2002**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held November 10, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Fourteen members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the October meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. President Richwine then read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

President Richwine announced that: The audit committee will meet December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> at Marion O'Neal's house. It's time to pay dues. Molly Ulsh is working on a new application and brochure. Selected death records will be printed and sold by Closson Press, and we'll receive a percentage.

Bob Viguers asked if we are a non-profit organization; Closson Press needs to know. Bob was reminded of the publications committee's willingness to help with the Quarterlies.

President Richwine also announced that: A letter was written to Hershey Foods about the Hammacher cemetery; as of the previous Wednesday, no decision had been made about moving the remains. The board decided not to move our meetings for the time being.

A roster and a refreshment sign-up sheet were passed around, and we all introduced ourselves.

Winnie Gould gave the nominating committee report. Rae Neubaum volunteered to be first<sup>t</sup> vice-president and Jim Gould volunteered to be second vice-president. Nominees for director are Molly Ulsh, Irene Gipe and Charlotte Lotz. A motion that officers for 2003 be elected by acclamation was made and seconded. The next board meeting will be at 1:15 the day of the January meeting.

Jim Gould raised an objection to the by-laws: He felt that the phrase "or until their successors are elected" should be deleted from the section on terms of officers. He also suggested that elected officials should be allowed to serve only two terms in a row. President Richwine responded that these suggestions will be taken up at the next board meeting. Dave Kipp asked if anyone can attend the board meetings. The answer was "Yes, but they can't vote."

President Richwine stated that we will name committees in December. We need two people to organize the picnic; we also need to look at whether to continue to have a picnic.

Winnie Gould said she is getting virus-infected e-mails from Society members and asked whether anyone else is; several others are.

Jim Gould suggested that if members, during their research, see anything on the surnames other members are researching, they should give it to Bob for the Quarterly.

Bob Viguers asked what we are doing with our money; he suggested we have our own place for the surname file, etc.

Jack Sonneborn spoke on genealogy research on the internet.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **December 8, 2002**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held December 8, 2002 at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Fourteen members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the November meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded.

Several members presented Christmas and genealogical readings.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary