

CAPITAL AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Monthly Meeting Minutes
for 2005

January 9, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held January 9, 2005, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Vice-president Molly Ulsh called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Twenty-three members and guests were present.

Vice-president Ulsh began by reminding everyone that it's time to pay dues for 2005. Only seventeen people have paid so far. Rae Neubaum reported that the double issue of the quarterly should be out by the end of the month.

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

Karl Fox reported that Blue Ridge Cemetery is read and in the computer, but not on paper yet. Anyone with cemetery questions can e-mail Karl. He further reported that Prospect Hill is about half read, and he's working on getting access to several other cemeteries, including Resurrection and St. Catherine Labouré.

Vice-president Ulsh reminded everyone to send Keith Nonemaker surnames to analyze for his February presentation to us at knonemaker@aol.com.

Kirk Lovenbury gave a presentation on researching English roots.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

February 13, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held February 13, 2005, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Vice-president Molly Ulsh called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Forty-two members and guests were present.

Vice-president Ulsh announced the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society annual genealogy conference April 1 and 2. She commented that this has been a really worthwhile conference in the past. Karl Fox announced that the Palmyra Area Genealogical Society will hold a genealogy swap meet Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 at the Community Bible Church.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the January meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. Vice-president Ulsh read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

Vice-president Ulsh asked for volunteers to help copy tax records for the newsletter. Karl Fox announced that a copy of Blue Ridge Cemetery is now in our library, and that he was able to get access to Holy Cross and Mt. Calvary Cemeteries. E-mail Karl for look-ups.

Keith and Beth Nonemaker presented a program on the origins of surnames.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

March 13, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held March 13, 2005, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Vice-president Molly Ulsh 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 February meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded.

Vice-president Ulsh reported that we need another cabinet for our books, and that she asked the minister if we could place another cabinet next to our current one and he said yes. A motion to release the necessary funds was made and seconded. Vice-president Ulsh requested Karl Fox to obtain a cabinet.

Vice-president Ulsh also reported that the publications committee met, and that we will use the same timetable for the newsletter as we did for the quarterly. The next issue will be June, and the deadline for submissions is the last week in May. Send submissions to Dottie Fox at dottiefox@aol.com.

Vice-president Ulsh further reported that she and Jeanette Bender will copy records from the Prothonotary's Office for the newsletter, and invited anyone to join them. The Prothonotary's Office has records of lawsuits, divorces, passport applications, and sheriff's sales.

Karl Fox reported on new acquisitions for the library: Mt. Zion (Cumberland County) Cemetery records, donated by Sherry Dively; Early Pa. Births 1675 – 1875 and Alsace Emigration, Vol. 2, donated by Freda Yocum; and Palatine Emigrant periodicals, donated by Charlotte Lotz.

Vice-president Ulsh reported that we didn't have a table at the State Museum's Family Heritage Day; no one was available to staff it.

Dick Hann spoke about the Derry Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

April 10, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held April 10, 2005, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:35 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. Vice-president Molly Ulsh read the February and March treasurer's reports, which are on file with these minutes.

Vice-president Ulsh reported that they were not able to copy records from the Prothonotary's Office as planned, but instead she and Rae Neubaum went to the Office of Wills. On a related note, Rae reported that the Prothonotary's Office has coroner's reports from 1956 forward, and asked if anyone knew where coroner's reports before 1956 are.

President Richwine asked for suggestions for a picnic site. Suggestions can be given to President Richwine or Winnie Gould. Winnie reported on our field trip to the Gratz History Museum, 8 W. Market St., Gratz, May 22nd at 2 p.m. We'll meet at Christ Lutheran Church at 1 p.m. Lunch is not included, and no research will be possible that day.

The Palatines to Pa. annual meeting April 23rd beginning at 9 a.m. was announced. It's at Yoder's Restaurant on Rte. 23 between Lancaster and Blue Ball, and costs \$25 (\$30 for non-members).

Dottie Fox asked for items for the newsletter. President Richwine asked if anyone attended the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society annual conference. No one had and we didn't have a table this year. Vice-president Ulsh asked if there were any genealogy questions; there were none.

Karl Fox asked if anybody knew where he could find a cabinet with doors for our library. Winnie Gould will check an office furniture outlet on the West Shore. Karl reported the Blue Ridge and Prospect Hill cemetery books are in our library, and that he is looking for anybody who has recorded the Harrisburg East Cemetery.

Don Brown, founder of the American Institute of Deltiology in Myerstown, spoke on postcards as a tool for genealogical research.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

May, 2005

No Minutes

June 12, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held June 12, 2005, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. Twenty-three 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.

Winnie Gould reported on the May field trip to Gratz. The picture is on the website and in the newsletter; we need help identifying all the people in the picture. She reported that everyone seemed impressed with the museum and schoolhouse.

Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes. Treasurer O'Neal also reported on the Levan Street cemetery. The neighbor who's caring for it put down bricks under the bench and put out potted plants; he said he doesn't need any help with it at the present time. Marion suggested planting bulbs in the fall.

Karl Fox reported that he's working with the Boy Scouts to map and plot the stones in the Schaffner cemetery, as written up in the newsletter. In the next newsletter, information from all available sources on the Schaffner cemetery will be compiled. Karl also reported on his work on the Harrisburg East Cemetery.

President Richwine thanked Dottie Fox for editing the newsletter, and reported on our July 10 picnic at Levitz Park, Grantville, with the Palmyra Genealogical Society as our guests. We'll set up around noon and eat between 12:30 and 1:00. Paper goods will be furnished.

President Richwine opened the floor for genealogical questions. Secretary Yocum reported that she received an e-mail inquiring about obituaries from the Patriot News. Members responded that past issues of the Patriot are available at the State Library and State Archives. A guest asked if anyone is researching the Rudy family of Lower Paxton Township. Dottie Fox suggested he put a query in the newsletter.

Winnie Gould related that she got three responses from three different countries after posting an inquiry on Rootsweb. Other members suggested Googling a town name or the family name and place of residence. Kirk Lovenbury related that hospitals and other employers run inexpensive trips to Europe.

Sheldon Munn spoke and showed slides on some of Harrisburg's most famous citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

July, 2005

No Minutes

August 14, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held August 14, 2005, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Eleven members and guests were present.

Robin Lighty, board member and past president of the Camp Curtin Historical Society, discussed various logistical details of the September 11, 2005 Harrisburg Cemetery Tour event being jointly sponsored by the Camp Curtin Historical Society and the Capital Area Genealogical Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

September, 2005

No Minutes

October 9, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held October 9, 2005, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Nineteen members and guests were present.

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

President Richwine asked for nominations for the nominating committee. Rae Neubaum nominated herself and Ricki Hammell, and Karl Fox nominated Helen Foreman. President Richwine appointed Rae Neubaum chair of the committee and requested that they make a report at the November meeting. Rae Neubaum asked for volunteers to be nominated for the board.

President Richwine reported that the Sept. 11 Harrisburg Cemetery event was a great day. Our volunteers did look-ups and answered questions for many people, and we got six new members. Members commented that they had a good tour guide, who provided many details and even had pictures of the people buried there.

Karl Fox reported that four new books were donated and are now in the library, and another book was just donated by Charlotte Lotz. In addition, a Kreiser family book was donated; Karl asked for donations for a binder for it. He reported that Harrisburg East Cemetery is finished, and he's getting it on computer. Shoop's Cemetery is about half done. Karl also reported that the Harrisburg Cemetery has all its index cards photocopied and on computer disc. They will do look-ups for a \$5 fee.

Betty Hummel, who is Vice President of the Harrisburg State Hospital Historical Society, reported that she finally finished a report, which is also on CD, on the State Hospital Cemetery. The Hospital opened 154 years ago October 6. There will be an anniversary ceremony Oct. 12 at 10 a.m. "The City on the Hill", a book about the Hospital, will be for sale at the Hospital chapel then. The Hospital's closing should not affect the little cemetery on the property. The State Museum and Archives are taking the things from the Dorothea Dix Museum at the Hospital. There is an admission book for the years 1851-1880, containing 4600 names. Betty will be our speaker next May on the history of the State Hospital. President Richwine urged that we put together information on Dauphin and Cumberland County hospitals no longer in existence.

Rae Neubaum reported that the State Archives is having an anniversary celebration. Jim Beidler will be giving two talks, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, on Saturday, Oct. 15, on researching in the Archives. Reservations are required.

Calobe Jackson spoke on Harrisburg history and the underground railroad in the area.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

November 13, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held November 13, 2005, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Eleven 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. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

President Richwine reported on the results of the board meeting held Oct. 29. President Richwine will be the liaison with the church, at least until we find out who the CAGS member is who's a member of the church. President Richwine also reported that there was discussion about whether material from counties other than Dauphin and Cumberland is appropriate for the newsletter; she clarified that the bylaws say "mainly Dauphin and Cumberland". She also reported that the board voted to change the due date of the annual audit report to the February meeting. Finally, President Richwine reported that the board voted to release funds to pay for the newsletter printing and mailing through 2006.

Rae Neubaum, nominating committee chair, presented the slate of candidates for the board for 2006: Esther Richwine, president; Rae Neubaum, vice president; Freda Yocum, secretary; Marion O'Neal, treasurer; Jeanette Bender, Robin Lighty, and Winnie Gould, directors. She asked if there were any nominations from the floor; there were none. President Richwine thanked Karl Fox, who declined to be on the board in 2006, for his service to the board in 2005.

A sign-up sheet for refreshments for 2006 was circulated; President Richwine reminded everyone that the refreshments don't need to be anything fancy. Karl Fox reported that someone anonymously donated 3 books to the library.

President Richwine asked if anyone had any genealogy questions or new ideas. Rae Neubaum reported that she researched Dauphin County marriage licenses on microfilm at the State Archives, and found more there than she had at the County Courthouse. Marion O'Neal reported that she viewed a binder of Baldwin Cemetery burials at the cemetery office. The lady at the office indicated that they were looking for someone to put the burials on computer. Karl Fox stated that he might be able to do that, depending on the size of the job, if we can get the information from them. There was discussion about whether Bob Viguers might have already put these on computer file.

Winnie Gould reported on the programs scheduled for the upcoming year: Jan. 8 – Joseph Breckbill on the Milton Hershey School; Feb. 12 – Stephen Runkle on canals and canal life; Mar. 12 – combined meeting with the West Shore Genealogical Society, Dan Cupper on the Enola Yards; Apr. 9 – Jim Stutzman on the Indians of Pa. from the ice age forward; May 21 – Betty Hummel on the Harrisburg State Hospital; June 11 – Germaine Nadler on mourning jewelry; July 9 – picnic; Aug. 13 – tour of the Capitol; Sept. 10 – Herb Kruger, president of the East Pennsboro Historical Society. President Richwine reminded everyone to bring a dessert for our party next month.

Thomas Duszak, Head of Cataloging at the State Library and member of the Polish-American Association of Harrisburg, spoke on Polish-American research.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

December, 2005

No Minutes