

**CAPITAL AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**for 2009**

**January 11, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held January 11, 2009, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. Twelve members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the November meeting and the announcements from the December meeting; they were accepted as read. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes, and announced that she's accepting 2009 dues.

President Richwine reported that we received a thank you from Jonathan Stayer, our November speaker, for our donation to the Pa. Archives. She also reported that we received, unsolicited, a booklet on the Laub family. She wrote a thank you note to the sender, and Jim McAteer, newsletter editor, will report the accession in the newsletter.

In addition, she announced the Pa. Archives Family History Day March 8. We don't intend to participate, as we have seldom sold anything when we did. Finally, she told us about Diane McCormack, who's writing a newspaper article on our organization and is looking for something unusual in someone's ancestry to write about.

President Richwine then opened the floor for genealogical questions. There were no questions, but as an addendum to our October program on Roberts Valley, Ricki Hammell told us about the legend of gold hidden somewhere in the valley.

Our speaker didn't show up, so there was general discussion about genealogy, including Mike Freeland telling us about Hart's Island, a large potter's field in New York. Records of the burials there exist, and will soon be on the internet. There was also discussion of our website; Jim McAteer plans to take over updating it.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

**February 8, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held February 8, 2009, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:28 p.m. Twenty-four members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the January meeting; they were accepted as read. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes, and Audit Committee Chair Yocum read the audit report.

President Richwine called the group's attention to brochures for the Lancaster Family History conference April 24 & 25.

Guests attending their first meeting introduced themselves.

Michael Barton, Penn State Harrisburg professor, gave an illustrated presentation on Harrisburg's old Eighth Ward.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **March 8, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held March 8, 2009, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. Twenty-one members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the February meeting; they were accepted as read. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

President Richwine announced several upcoming genealogy conferences: The Lancaster Family History Conference "Roots on the Move, Stories of Immigration" April 24 & 25 at the Eden Resort; the National Genealogical Society's Family History Conference May 13 to 16 in Raleigh, N.C.; the Chapman Family Association 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention & Reunion June 5 & 6 in Harrisburg; and the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society's "Exploring New Record Groups in Germany and the U.S." April 18 at the Plaza Hotel in Hagerstown, Md. We have literature available on all these.

Deborah White Hershey announced the Federation of Genealogy Societies' annual conference Sept. 2 to 6 in Little Rock.

President Richwine then opened the floor for genealogical questions. James Miket asked if anybody knows how to find information on individuals who went back to Europe. Karl Fox advised looking for ships' passengers' lists in the city they departed from. Molly Ulsh suggested checking the county courthouse, because people often got a passport to return to the old country immediately after they got their citizenship. Deborah White Hershey added that naturalizations could be done in the county or federal court.

Dottie Fox related her experience of finding relatives on Facebook, which doesn't cost anything.

Tony Orsini spoke and showed slides on the Amish.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **April 19, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held April 19, 2009, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. Twelve members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the March meeting; they were accepted as read. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

President Richwine reported that after we paid our rent for the remainder of the year, we received a letter from the minister thanking us for being good tenants and for paying in advance. She then opened the floor for genealogical questions; there were none.

President Richwine reported on upcoming programs: June – we'll share our research experiences; July – no meeting; August – the story of the sunken town of Peach Bottom; September – undecided, but possibly 19<sup>th</sup> century clothing; October – visit to the Lebanon County Historical Society; November – "Dead Men Do Tell Tales", stories from Lancaster County's past (August, September, and November programs arranged by the Lancaster County Historical Society); December – Christmas program by Molly Ulsh; January – Jim McAteer on basic genealogy. Molly Ulsh also volunteered to do a program on the Harrisburg Opera House.

Robin Lighty presented a program on the history of work, injury, death, and disaster in Pa. coal mines, as well as genealogical resources available.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **May 17, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held May 17, 2009, 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 April meeting; they were accepted as read.

President Richwine announced our May 2010 meeting – Steve Runkle on his great-grandfather's coal mine and company village, Joler, in Huntingdon County. Steve credited

Robin Lighty for his help with that presentation as well as for the bridge pictures in today's presentation.

President Richwine reminded us to bring our research for the June meeting. She then opened the floor for genealogical questions; there were none. She reported that she'll be speaking about basic genealogy at Frey Village in Middletown May 27.

Karl Fox reported that he's working on the Churchville cemetery in Oberlin, and is two-thirds done. Many of the stones are illegible and the records were lost in 1910. He'll update the computer and Dottie will bring the laptop in June for look-ups.

Steve Runkle presented "Campaign to the Susquehanna", the events of June 1863.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **June 14, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held June 14, 2009, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Esther Richwine called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. Sixteen members and guests were present.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the May meeting; they were accepted as read. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

President Richwine reported on her May basic genealogy presentation at Frey Village. She informed the group that the Dauphin County Historical Society will be open additional hours for the summer. She reminded us that there will be no July meeting, and our August meeting will feature a program, arranged by the Lancaster County Historical Society, on "The Sunken Town of Peach Bottom".

Karl Fox asked whether anyone knows someone who can speak or read Serbian. Jim McAteer suggested asking at the Serbian church. Jim reported on an Eagle Scout project to record every tombstone in Lebanon (he's not sure if it's city or county) cemeteries; he asked them for a copy for our library.

Jim McAteer led a program on basic genealogy.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **July, 2009**

No Minutes

## **August 9, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held August 9, 2009, 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 June meeting; they were accepted as read. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

President Richwine reported on the board meeting held prior to this meeting. A nominating committee of Jim McAteer, chair, Marion O'Neal, and Fern Boyer was appointed; they will report at the September meeting. Secretary Yocum will review the by-laws and report at the next board meeting.

President Richwine also reported that she, Marion O'Neal, and Ricki Hammell attended the Paxtang Historical Society picnic at the Paxtang Cemetery. One of the cemetery's owners will speak to us about the cemetery in February, 2010.

President Richwine then opened the floor for genealogical questions. There were none.

Mary Boomsma and Stanley White gave a presentation on "The Sunken Town of Peach Bottom."

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **September 13, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held September 13, 2009, 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; they were accepted as read. Treasurer Marion O'Neal read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

Jim McAteer reported on our Sunday, Oct. 4 field trip to the Lebanon County Historical Society. We'll meet at the Historical Society at 1:30 p.m. for a 1½-hour tour of their museum; then we'll be free to use their library. Jim has directions.

Jim also announced the Juniata County Historical Society's bus trip to the National Archives Wednesday, Oct. 21. They'll pick up passengers at the Camp Hill Boscov's between 7:15 and

7:30 a.m. Mail payment of \$40 to Terry Wheeler at the Juniata County Historical Society by Sept. 23.

President Richwine then opened the floor for genealogical questions. There were none.

Bob Viguers brought up the subject of our bench at the Levan Street cemetery – it's looking shabby, but Bob thought some sandpaper and shellac or varnish would fix it up. Marion O'Neal reported that a matching bench was placed there, so we probably wouldn't want to replace our bench with a different kind. She suggested contacting the neighbor who takes care of the cemetery, and Bob said he would do that.

Robin Lighty reported on the Blair County Genealogical Society's impressive 2-story library on Route 22 East in Hollidaysburg. They have information on counties other than Blair, and will do look-ups. Their phone number is on their website.

President Richwine announced our November speaker – Heather Tennes, Director on Archival Services at the Lancaster County Historical Society.

President Richwine then announced that she is retiring as president. Jim McAteer, nominating committee chair, presented the nominating committee's slate of candidates: President – Jim McAteer; Vice-president – Robin Lighty; Secretary – Freda Yocum; Treasurer – Marion O'Neal; board members – Fern Boyer, Rich Rudisill, and Betty Hummel. Jim asked for nominations from the floor; there were none. Motions were made and seconded to close the nominations for each position. Betty Hummel will replace Karl Fox on the board, and Karl will replace Jon Mansch as librarian.

Karl Fox spoke about his multi-year effort to record Dauphin County cemeteries, as well as others in the area.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum  
Secretary

## **October, 2009**

No Minutes

## **November, 2009**

No Minutes

## **December, 2009**

No Minutes