

CAPITAL AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Monthly Meeting Minutes
for 2011

January 9, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held January 9, 2011, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Jim McAteer called the meeting to order at 2:36 p.m. Twelve members and guests were present.

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

Librarian Karl Fox reported the library received a catalog of surnames from the Higgenson Book Company in Salem, Mass. Webmaster Mike Freeland reported he added a memorial page to the website, and just started to work with a 108,000-surname cemetery database disc Librarian Fox gave him.

President McAteer reported board member Fern Boyer agreed to do publicity, but doesn't have the newspaper addresses. He asked Treasurer O'Neal, who did publicity in the past, to help Fern get addresses.

President McAteer reported on the upcoming programs: Feb. – Vice-president Robin Lighty on how he did his family tree in Excel, Mar. – participating in the State Museum's Family History Day (Vice-president Lighty will be asking for volunteers to staff our table), Apr. – Webmaster Freeland on our website, May – field trip to Perry Historians (Saturday), June – working on our library (redoing index cards L to P), Aug. – DAR (tentative), Sept. – participating in the Harrisburg Cemetery tour, Oct. – the Military History Institute, Nov. – installation of officers, Dec. – party.

President McAteer asked if there were any comments on the new bylaws on the website; there were none. He reported the passing of board member Betty Hummel, and reported that we have brochures available on the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society's annual conference Mar. 31 to Apr. 2.

Webmaster Freeland mentioned that 2012 is the 30th anniversary of our organization and the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812, and suggested possible giveaways for our table on Family History Day.

Secretary Yocum suggested circulating a refreshment sheet for the year; this was done.

The business meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

President McAteer spoke about the Social Security Death Index.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

February 13, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held February 13, 2011, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Jim McAteer called the meeting to order at 2:37 p.m. Thirteen 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.

Librarian Karl Fox and newsletter editor Molly Ulsh reported that they'll be publishing parts of Karl's cemetery database in the newsletters. They'll choose a surname (They're starting with Cassel.), Karl will research it in the database, and they'll publish a list of names with either the cemetery each person is buried in or the number of the cemetery book the name can be found in.

Editor Ulsh also reported that the newsletter is going to the printer on Friday and will include a memorial to former board member Betty Hummel. Webmaster Mike Freeland reported that he's started work on putting the cemetery database on our website. Volunteer auditor Freda Yocum gave the audit report, which is on file with these minutes.

New publicity chair Fern Boyer reported that she's still getting organized. Vice-president Robin Lighty will get the e-mail addresses of newspapers we've been sending meeting notices to (although only the Paxton Herald regularly publishes the notices). We'll give notice on our website and in the newsletter that there will be no regular meeting in March.

President McAteer announced a bus trip, sponsored by the Juniata County Historical Society, to the DAR and National Archives in Washington D.C. on April 27. Contact Terry Wheeler (of Juniata County) by March 31. The cost is \$40, and details are on our website.

Vice-president Lighty reported on the State Museum's Charter Day March 13. It's open to the public noon to 4:30, with an hour for set-up and a half hour for tear-down. We'll have a table; webmaster Freeland will have a computer there. We'll be one of only two genealogy societies represented and the only table with giveaways. The day will feature someone in costume as William Penn, Civil War era dancers, a storyteller, and Pennsylvania's actual charter. Use the Third Street entrance; parking is free.

President McAteer announced that editor Molly Ulsh is taking Betty Hummel's position on the board and that our April meeting will feature a presentation on the website by webmaster Freeland. He also drew the group's attention to notices received from a number of genealogy societies.

The business meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Robin Lighty gave a presentation on using Excel for genealogy.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

March 13, 2011

There were no minutes this month due to our participation in the Annual Charter Day event at the State Museum.

April 10, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held April 10, 2011, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Vice-president Robin Lighty called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. Ten 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.

Vice-president Lighty reported that Charter Day went really well. The attendance, according to the Historical & Museum Commission, was 751, which is average. Some different groups from the usual ones had tables.

He reported that we had 500 pens made; we all got 3, 1 to keep and 2 to give away; we'll also give them to all new attendees. He also reported that Webmaster Mike Freeland redesigned our brochure, which now has information about our website. We have lots of those to give away too.

Vice-president Lighty further reported that the Harrisburg Cemetery association is happy to have us at their event coming up in September. We won't be inside the caretaker's house this year, but rather on the porch. We'll bring computers; vice-president Lighty has large screens. We'll set up at 11:30; the event officially starts at noon. Tours are \$5, \$4 for members; the money goes to the Cemetery. The Cemetery association will do look-ups, which have been free in prior years, and provide free refreshments.

Program chair Fern Boyer reported on our upcoming field trip to the Perry Historians May 14. We'll plan to arrive around 10 a.m. for a tour, and later we'll have time for research. They're open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and there's a restaurant nearby. Vice-president Lighty suggested publicizing the tour in Perry County newspapers, as well as on our website and in our quarterly. Webmaster Freeland will put a map on our website. They didn't charge a fee the last time we visited, but if there is one, CAGS will pay it, as it has with previous historical society visits, or could give a donation.

Editor Molly Ulsh asked for items for the quarterly. Vice-president Lighty reported that the Pa. bookstore has closed, but you can still buy from their website. He also reported that we'll have a board meeting later this quarter.

The business meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Webmaster Freeland spoke about our website, with emphasis on the cemetery database, and about the National Genealogy Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

May 15, 2011

There were no minutes this month due to our field trip to The Perry Historians.

June 12, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held June 12, 2011, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Jim McAteer called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Twelve members and guests were present.

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

Librarian Karl Fox reported two books were donated to our library: Boyd's 1928 phone directory for Harrisburg, Steelton, and Paxtang; and The West Hanover Township's "The Old Days and Ways" volume 2, donated by the West Hanover Township Historical Society (we already have volume 1).

Webmaster Mike Freeland reported that he added a page on the history of CAGS to our website and that the cemetery database is up and running, with two recent updates and a total of about 111,000 names. Librarian Fox added that the updates are for Paxtang Cemetery, which he has about half done. Webmaster Freeland further reported that he added a chart for determining when an ancestor was born from his age in the census.

President McAteer reported that our May visit to Perry Historians was a success, with thirteen people participating in a nice tour. We made a contribution of \$60 to Perry Historians for the tour. He also reported on our upcoming programs: July – no meeting, August – a presentation on the DAR, and September – participating in the Harrisburg Cemetery event. He asked for suggestions for programs for 2012 and announced that the Latter Day Saints now have a second website featuring states' vital records.

A DAR representative asked for help in identifying homes of 18th century patriots in Lower Paxton Township and Linglestown. Suggestions included the Hummelstown Historical Society, David Doyle, Bill Minsker, and the two volumes of "Journey Into Time" in our library.

The business meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

We spent the rest of the meeting recreating missing index cards for our surname file.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

July 10, 2011

There was no meeting this month.

August 14, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Capital Area Genealogical Society was held August 14, 2011, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. President Jim McAteer called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. Fifteen members and guests were present. First-time attendees introduced themselves and told us what families they're researching.

Secretary Freda Yocum read the minutes of the June meeting, which were accepted as read. Secretary Yocum read the treasurer's report, which is on file with these minutes.

Librarian Karl Fox thanked everyone for their efforts at the June meeting in recreating the missing index cards for our surname file. Newsletter editor Molly Ulsh asked for items for our newsletter.

President McAteer reported that he contacted the West Shore genealogical society about a joint meeting next year. They are interested in doing that, probably for their January 8 or February 5 meeting. They meet Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at the West Shore YMCA. More information will be forthcoming.

He also reported on the Juniata County Historical Society's trip to the DAR and National Archives in Washington D.C. on Wednesday, October 26. They will pick up in Mifflin County and at the Camp Hill Shopping Center at 7:15 a.m. Payment of \$40 is due to Terry Wheeler by September 28.

President McAteer further reported that we'll have a field trip to AHEC in Carlisle in October, and that he reserved our meeting room at the church for 2012. He opened the floor for genealogical question; there were none, but Bob Viguers

reported that the Paxtang Cemetery gave him two lots for putting their records on computer.

Vice-president Robin Lighty reported on the Harrisburg Cemetery event September 11, featuring cemetery tours, re-enactors, and free refreshments. We have flyers available, and we'll put it on our website. We'll probably be able to have a large table just inside the door of the caretaker's house, but if not, we'll be on the large covered porch. We'll have two computers and large screens to do look-ups and show our website. We'll set up between 11:30 and 11:45; the first (and largest) tour is 12:00. Between 90 and 130 people usually attend. There's plenty of free parking. The cemetery will probably do free look-ups; money collected for tours benefits the cemetery. We'll meet there in lieu of our regular meeting that day.

Finally, President McAteer asked for volunteers for a nominating committee. When there were none, he asked Rich Rudisill and Fern Boyer to serve on the committee, and they agreed to.

The business meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Karen Schmidt, Harrisburg chapter regent, and Joan Bretz, Cumberland County chapter treasurer, spoke about the DAR.

Respectfully submitted,

Freda J. Yocum
Secretary

September 11, 2011

October 9, 2011

November 13, 2011

December 11, 2011

There was no meeting this month due to the Annual Christmas Party.