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Gen News

The newsletter of the Douglas County Genealogy Club
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Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 6 p.m. at the Douglas County Historical Society, 1101 John Avenue. Agenda items will include:

- January Meeting Minutes
- Treasurer's report
- Calendar of Events
- Committee Reports
- Member Info Updates

Meeting topics for 2016

- January - Business Meeting
- February - Meeting with the DCHS
- March - Potluck celebrating our heritage and cultures
- April - Library resources at UWS
- May - Joining TPGS at LDS Center on Thursday, May 5 at 6:00 p.m. Exact plans to be tabled until the March meeting.
- June - Picnic with TPGS on Monday, June 6; Native American research on Tuesday, June 7
- July - Cemetery Walk at the cemetery on County Highway Z
- August - Songs of the Mariners, a musical group that sings sea chanties and gives some history of sailors' lives.
- September - Clerk of Courts and other courthouse research resources available
- October - DAR
- November - Bong Center; Jane will contact them
- December - Holiday Potluck

January Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.; officers present were President Jim Mattson, Vice-President

Jan Resberg, Treasurer Jane Sigfrids and Secretary Lorrie Madden.

Due to technical difficulties with Jane Sigfrids' computer, she was unable to post the minutes for the November meeting at the Bong Center. Lorrie Madden read her copy of the November minutes. A correction was made to change Eileen Smoley to Karen Smoley. A motion was made by Emily Fredrick and seconded by Judy Aunet to accept the minutes. The motion passed.

There was no meeting in December due to inclement weather.

Lorrie Madden read the December Executive Board Meeting minutes. Two corrections to the minutes included:

- The addition of Marlene Case to the members present;

- Jan Resberg reiterated that the formal practice of bringing snacks will be terminated but members are free to bring treats if they choose. The original reason for this practice was the meeting time being 5:30 which is dinner time. This reason no longer applied due to the change of meeting time to 6:00 p.m. A motion was made by Bobbi Hoyt to accept the Executive Board Meeting minutes as corrected and seconded by Jane Sigfrids. The motion passed.

Jim Mattson read the letter written by Lorrie Madden to make contact with past members. Two corrections to the letter included:

- The name change of the "Minnesota Genealogy Society" to the "Minnesota Genealogical Society";

- The date of the genealogy lock-in from March to this spring. A motion was made by Emily

Fredrick and seconded by Dave Johnson to accept the letter with changes and get them sent out. The motion passed.

Jane gave the treasurer's report; she passed out three months of bank statements to the officers. She explained the different deposits (mostly dues) and checks written along with surcharges. We are charged 50 cents for each check we write. Marlene Case questioned the fact that we have a check charge since we are a non-profit. Jane explained she checked with the person at the credit union who helped her reopen the checking account; due to new banking policies, we need to file a 501(c)(3) form to avoid the check charge. A motion was made by Dave Johnson and seconded by Judy Aunet to accept the treasurer's report. The motion passed.

Jim asked about outstanding dues. Jane said there were only six outstanding and she would contact them. She will also give Lorrie Madden contact information so that Lorrie can send out the letter to past members.

Constitution Changes

1. Article 5-G: Jim Mattson passed out a draft of language to clarify succession of officers. This would be an additional subsection to Article 5. A motion was made by Judy Aunet and seconded by Emily Fredrick to accept the change to the by-laws. The motion passed.

2. Article 8: The idea that an Audit Committee implies issues with the IRS, a discussion was held to change the name to Financial Review Committee. A motion was made by Jane Sigfrids and seconded by Dave Johnson to change the name to the Financial Review Committee. The motion passed.

3. Article 6-B: The constitution reads "that the meetings of the Douglas County Genealogy Club will be held at the Superior Public Library." Because we are discussing alternate meeting places, it was suggested that we change the wording to read: "Meetings shall

be conducted at an appointed location as determined by the membership." A motion was made by Jan Resberg and seconded by Bobbi Hoyt to accept the changes to Article 6-B. The motion passed.

With the addition of the by-law changes, Jim Mattson suggested they be retyped to reflect the updates.

Committee Memberships

Jane Sigfrids gave a report on committee membership rosters. Current members included on committees:

Program Committee: Jan Resberg, Chair; Jim Mattson; Lorrie Madden; Judy Aunet

Public Relations and Publications Committee: Jim Mattson, Chair; Jane Sigfrids; Jan Resberg. Marlene Case submits club notices to the Superior Telegram.

Executive Board: Jim Mattson, Chair; Jan Resberg; Lorrie Madden; Jane Sigfrids; Emily Fredrick; Bobbi Hoyt; Marlene Case

Program Committee Report

The committee met on November 7, 2015. The topics discussed were:

1. Genealogy class at the Douglas County Historical Society (see President's Report that follows)
2. Monthly Programs - see the listing on page one

General Items

Library Lock-In: Judy Aunet reported on the lock-in; a date of April 1, 2016 has been set. Jane Sigfrids and Lorrie Madden volunteered to meet with Judy and Leslie from the library on Monday, Jan. 11 at the library. Details can be found under Upcoming Events.

Jane Sigfrids gave a report on moving the website to Google. She has not completed this due to technical issues with her computer; when this is resolved, she will create a website.

Jane Sigfrids reported that she will be moving the newsletter to our Dropbox account but is concerned about placing financial information out in the Cloud. Consensus among the membership is to remove the financial data before moving newsletters to Dropbox.

Marlene Case stated that the Financial Review Committee needs to meet for the yearly review of our financial records. Committee members are Marlene Case, Dave Johnson and Lorrie Madden.

Dave Johnson asked about our website that was being hosted by Tripod. The website was maintained by Vicki Garro and since she resigned she hasn't been keeping it up. There was some discussion about problems Vicki was having with the website usage. Dave Johnson volunteered to research it and help Jane update it.

Bobbi Hoyt asked Judy Aunet about the library posting our meeting notices on their webpage. Judy said it's not a library practice, but she will look into putting it on Public Access.

President's Report

Jim Mattson reported that he has been working with the Douglas County Historical Society; they've agreed to host our February meeting at the DCHS and give us an overview of their resources. A discussion on where future meeting could be held included the Superior Public Library, the DCHS, the Bong Center, or a mix of locations.

Jim and Tony Tracy of the DCHS discussed an education presentation for the public on a Saturday in 2015; suggested dates were February 20, February 27, and March 19 at 11:00 - 1:30 p.m. (A date has been finalized; see Upcoming Events).

Jim and Tony also discussed having a more permanent relationship with the DCHS, working with their archives.

A date of April 1, 2016 was confirmed for the library lock-in.

Election of Officers

The meeting was turned over to Jan Resberg, Vice-President, to open nominations for the offices of President and Secretary. Jim Mattson accepted Bobbi Hoyt's nomination for President; as he is finishing Vicki Garro's term, this would be considered his first term.

Lorrie Madden declined the nomination for Secretary; Dave Johnson volunteered to be the new Secretary. A motion was made by Marlene Case and seconded by Jane Sigfrids to accept Jim Mattson as President and Dave Johnson as Secretary. The motion passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Marlene Case and seconded by Jane Sigfrids. The motion passed; the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

(Respectfully submitted by Lorrie Madden, DCGC Secretary)

Financial Review Committee Report

The Financial Review Committee met with the Treasurer, Jane Sigfrids, on January 29, 2016 to review the financial reports for the past year; the reports were approved.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

DCGC= Douglas County Genealogy Club
TPGS=Twin Ports Genealogical Society
WSGS= Wisconsin State Genealogical Society
MNGS= Minnesota Genealogical Society

February 20, 2016

In conjunction with the Douglas County Historical Society, we will be sponsoring an introductory genealogy workshop, to be held at the DCHS, 1101 John Avenue. The program will include a DCHS resources presentation, along with examples of genealogical research being done by DCGC members. It will run from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; coffee and refreshments will be served.

April 1, 2016

Plans are being made for a Genealogy "Lock-In" at the Superior Public Library. The library doors will be locked to all but attendees, who will have access to the library computers and microfilm machines in order to concentrate on family history research. Pre-registration will be required; the event will run from 4:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and a dinner break will be included.

The library will be handling public relations and more information will be made available as plans progress.

We're still looking for a title for this event; since it's being held on April 1, we hoped to work "April Fools" into the name. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

April 8 and 9, 2016

The Wisconsin State Genealogical Society is offering Gene-A-Rama 2016 at the Plaza Hotel and Suites in Wausau, WI, on April 8 and 9, 2016. The keynote speaker is Judy Russell, *The Legal Genealogist*. She is a genealogist with a law degree who writes and lectures on topics ranging from using court records in family history to understanding DNA testing. On the faculty of IGHR, SLIG, and GRIP, she is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, from which she holds credentials as a Certified Genealogist® and Certified Genealogical LecturerSM. Her award-winning blog is at <http://www.legalgenealogist.com>.

More info for this event, along with registration forms, can be found at www.wsgs.org.

Be sure to check out the Minnesota Genealogical Society Calendar at <http://www.mnsgs.org/calendar.shtml> for a listing of other club events in the Twin Cities Area. Pay special attention to who is staffing the MNGS Library. Each of the affiliate clubs take turns which means you can have country focused genealogical research help.

Upcoming Meeting and Events is a work in progress. We invite all area genealogy organizations to submit their events with contact information for publication here to jnjsig@yahoo.com.

As always, if you have additional dates for the calendar or if you find a date in error, please email them to me at jnjsig@yahoo.com.

Douglas County Medical Events in History

The first recorded medical history of Superior is concerned with a problem of public health. In 1853, a small-pox epidemic broke out among the Indians who inhabited this area. In order to limit the disease, the government sent Dr. David Day to Superior to vaccinate those who had not contracted it and thus stamp it out.

In 1855, a Dr. Webster moved to Superior, followed slowly (over the next thirty years) by ten additional doctors. Then, apparently stimulated by prosperity in the city, its medical population suddenly grew by leaps and bounds. In 1890-91 there were fourteen newcomers; the astounding number of twenty-six in 1891-92, and seventeen more in 1892-93. Dr. C. V. Beebe, father of Dr. L. W. Beebe, called a meeting of the doctors in 1889 in his home; out of this the Douglas County Medical Society came into being. Dr. L. W., who is in his ninetieth year, has practiced in Superior since 1891. In that year, incidentally, the population of Superior was 4, 959.

The absolute necessity of hospital facilities was apparent and in 1889, James Bardon donated four lots in the East End to a religious order of Sisters, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. They erected Superior's first hospital, St. Francis Hospital. With a

shift in population two or three years later, the same order of Nursing Sisters erected St. Mary's Hospital in 1893, on property donated to them by the Land and River Improvement Company.

Medical licensure at that time was a far cry from the standards of the present day. Anyone who was in practice prior to July 1st, 1897 who possessed a good moral character, could register, whether holding a diploma from a medical school or not.

Transportation was by bicycle or horse-drawn sleigh or buggy. A substantial part of the business done by Hislop's and Beck's livery stables was with doctors who hired a horse with which to make their calls.

Two of the most serious health problems of those early years were typhoid fever and diphtheria, which annually claimed many victims. In this present day they have become so rare that many recent graduates have never seen a case. There

were many industries here in the early days which, from a medical standpoint, meant much emergency work. The logging industry was at its height and because of the proximity of the hospital tickets which they purchased from the company - a surprising forerunner of present day hospital insurance.

Taken from the Twin Ports Genealogy Society Branching Out, March and June, 1991. No author.

(Thanks to Bobbi Hoyt for submittal of the preceding article.)