

Bay Area Genealogical Society Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 23, 2005 - Corrected

President Ron Cox called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. Sixteen people were present at the meeting: Doug Wilson, Polly Wilson, Rose Mary Fritz, Jeanine Lawrence, Ron Cox, Dick Warren, Alice Braud-Jones, Neil Miserendino, Shirley Lindquist, Mary Martin, Leo Waltz, Leona Cook, Carol Varnado, Susie Ganch, Resa Hennings, and Loren Martin.

Jeanine Lawrence read from Job 19:23-27 and led us in a prayer.

Ron had Mary Martin talk about high-lights from the last meeting.

1. The following corrections were made by e-mail under Item #5 on Committee Reports: Doug Wilson and Claudia Grafton, Newsletter Editors (**correction: Newsletter Staff**), reported that they have changed the format. It has more information and pictures. They removed the calendar and the clock; we didn't need that many reminders. The front page has been slimmed down because a lot of the text was not new. We now have a "Gems for Genealogists" (**correction: "Gems from Genealogists"**) column. Claudia will pass out cards to members to get hints for the column (**correction: members and publish their hints and advice in each monthly newsletter**). We will still print eight pages. Office Depot in Kemah was not able to produce a quality newsletter this month. Leo Waltz said that the newsletter ran 10 pages once, and we could do 12 pages.
2. Carole Varnado said that her name is spelled with an e on the end of Carole.
3. Doug Wilson said that his position on the Newsletter Staff is "Compositor".

Jeanine Lawrence moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Leona Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Neil Miserendino had one correction to the General Meeting's Minutes of Sunday, April 24, 2005. Under Announcement #1, the Harris County Archives will be open on Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Appointments need to be made at other times. Neil moved to accept the General Meeting Minutes as corrected. Doug Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ron Cox asked Neil Miserendino to make the By-Law changes to the "Yearbook"

Resa Hennings gave the Treasurer's Reports for April and May. April 18, 2005, we had a Balance Forward of \$2,820.11. Income from Membership Dues was \$25.00, and Sale of "Quarterlies", lists, & Everton Magazines was \$52.40 for a total of \$77.40. The expenses were \$28.20 for "Newsletter" copies and \$49.78 for postage and labels. The total expenses were \$77.98 leaving a Balance on Hand of \$2,819.53 for April 18, 2005. May 23, 2005, we had a Balance Forward of \$2,819.53. Income from Membership Dues was \$20.00. The Expenses were \$12.00 for Food Service and \$331.50 to Copy Dr. for the "Newsletter". The total expenses were \$343.50 leaving a Balance on Hand of \$2,496.03 for May 23, 2005. Ron Cox mailed in our Tax Report for our income for the year and asked that Resa Hennings be listed as the Treasurer. Dick Warren made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Jeanine Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion passed. Resa asked how much money should be give to Clayton Library Friends. We have given \$10.00 for each of the last two years. Alice Braud-Jones thought that we should give at the Patron's Level which would be \$100.00 to \$249.00. Resa said that the account must maintain a \$300.00 minimum balance to start the next year. The question was asked, will we have enough left in the Treasury to cover expenses and to make a higher donation"? Are we going to have any money makers this year? It was suggested that we could donate \$100.00. Neil Miserendino

said that we have donated to the University Baptist Church for the last two years of \$200.00 and \$300.00. Ron Cox said that a fund raiser would require a place, and they are hard to come by. We have made money on seminars and speakers. Resa suggested a cookbook; several people have said that they would be interested in working on it. Resa also said that we have sold the Everton books.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Dick Warren, Second Vice-President and Program Chairman, passed out a sheet on "Where in the World? Using Maps in Genealogy". This will be Emily Croom's program on Sunday, May 29. The June meeting will have Marje Harris talking on "Library Resources as Finding Aids for Genealogists". The meeting in July is open at this time. The August meeting will be the traditional "Pot-Luck" and "Show and Tell" meeting. In July, Dick said that he could try to get a speaker on DNA Data Pools instead of Wolfram M. Von-Maszewski who would speak on "German Research". Dick said that he would try to schedule the man from Family DNA while he is in town. Alice Braud-Jones suggested that we could get the librarian from the San Jacinto Monument to speak; they have an archive. Alice also suggested that we could get the lady who does programs on Milam County Research; she does a weekly article. Milam County was settled early in Texas. Alice also mentioned a Dr. Michael Collins. Dick wants someone to help coordinate the August "Show and Tell" program. We will put out a sign-up sheet for what people would like to bring to the "Show and Tell" meeting. It was suggested that people could talk about what they loaned for the Freeman Library display.
2. Jeanine Lawrence, Meeting Room Chairman, reported that the April attendance at the Board Meeting was 15 people. The Society meeting had 58 members and 6 visitors for a total of 64 people at the Sunday, April 24 meeting. Jeanine received \$2.00 for the sale of an Everton Magazine, \$1.50 for three Website lists, and 25 cents for the sale of Mary's Forms for a Total of \$3.75. We could sell the Surname Data Base for \$2.00 instead of \$5.00 if that is all right. Do new members know about the Data Base? They might be interested in it. Ron Cox asked Loren Martin to do an article for the Newsletter about the Surname Data Base.
3. Rose Mary Fritz, Registrar, reported that we had a new member join, Bert Young making a total of 173 members. This year, we have had 17 new members and 64 visitors. What can we do to make the visitors become members? Jeanine Lawrence has called them last month. We need to pay attention to those people wearing the paper name tags and encourage them to come back. Leo Waltz asked how many of them are repeat visitors? We were encouraged to engage them in a conversation. It was suggested that we have blank applications next to where they sign-in as visitors. New Member Packets have helped in the past. It was suggested that we could lists the surnames that we are researching on the application forms and membership sheets. We can give the visitors "Newsletters" and "Quarterlies". We should sell the extra "Quarterlies". We could put them in bundles of a year and sell them that way. Ron Cox suggested that we could recognize birthdays and anniversaries at the meetings to make the meetings friendlier. We would just recognize just the month and not the day and the year of the birthdays and anniversaries. Maybe, the birthdates should not be put in the "Surname Data Base".
4. Carole Varnado, Historian, said that she had written her first article for the "Quarterly". She is gathering information. She thinks that she has a handle on being the Historian. Neil Miserendino suggested that she read the "Scrapbook". The Scrapbook Chairman and the Historian should work closely together. The "Scrapbook" has been displayed at several meetings. We had the "Scrapbook" at this Board Meeting. It has a red, white, and blue flag print cover. Handouts from speakers would be a good source for information as well as scrapbook and newspaper articles. More than 50% of the handouts are on the website. Jeanine Lawrence also has handouts on the back table at the meetings.
5. Neil Miserendino, E-mail Chairman, went through Rose Mary's list of members. He will do something with the "Yearbook" and keep it up to date. Neil wants permission to try e-mail site

on Yahoo or Google for our Society. It would be web-based e-mail. Different individuals could post information on it. Leo Waltz has created them before, and they work pretty well. Questions were raised of how to administer, privacy issues, and making sure that they are secure. Doug Wilson said that RootsWeb has groups on their e-mail list. Ron Cox asked if it would create SPAM?

6. Doug Wilson, Newsletter Compositor, reported that the printing of the newsletter for this month was satisfactory. The Office Depot in Webster is O.K. Linda Carrington picks it up there. Linda gives the left over newsletters to Polly at church. Doug needs some things for "Gems from Genealogists". We will need to replace Claudia Grafton as editor. Doug said that he needs someone to do this position. Doug said that he needs a good reporter or two of them in addition to an editor. Ron Cox said that the most important issue facing the Board is the Newsletter Editor. Shirley Lindquist asked if Claudia could announce it at the General Meeting and answer questions about this position.
7. Shirley Lindquist, Nominating Committee Chairman, has a slate of officers. The members of the Nominating Committee are: Ron Cox, Shirley Lindquist, Paula Sinning, and Jackie Wittschen. Shirley felt that the positions should be opened up to the general membership to see if anyone replies. Jackie Wittschen will be at the Board Meeting in June in Shirley's place. Leona Cook wanted to hear the list of candidates that we have for next year. Shirley read them: President, Loren Martin; 1st Vice-President, Alice Braud-Jones, 2nd Vice-President, Dick Warren, Recording Secretary, Mary Martin; Corresponding Secretary, Shirley Lindquist; Treasurer, Resa Hennings, and Registrar, Rose Mary Fritz. The list of candidates is read at the June General Meeting. We vote on the candidates at the July meeting. The committee's work was moved up sooner in the fiscal year. We need a written procedure if someone resigns from office. If the president resigns, the first vice-president will take over. The Board thought that resignations from other positions will be appointed at the meeting by the president. Shirley Lindquist said that it needs to be in the By-Laws; it has not been found stated in the By-Laws. *{Later, after the meeting it was found, that Article VI, Section 2 stated that the Board nominated an individual to be voted upon by the membership.} {Article VI: Section 2: Filling Vacant Officer or Director Positions: The First Vice-President shall automatically fill a vacancy occurring in the Office of the President. The First Vice-President will serve the remainder of the President's elected term. Officer vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person nominated by the Board of Directors and voted upon by the general membership at the next scheduled meeting after notice of such election has been published in the monthly Newsletter.}*
8. Shirley Lindquist, Corresponding Secretary, reported that Carole Lynn O'Neal is undergoing cancer treatments. She has had two sets of chemotherapy for a fast growing cancer. We give the speakers \$20.00 if they come from a distance. Shirley sends the speakers a written thank you note.
9. Leo Waltz, Webmaster, said that he is updating the By-Laws on the Website. He has replaced the tree logo with a ship logo on the Website. The month of April exceeded the month of March for Website hits. April had 1,023 hits, and March had 988 hits. April 30, 2005 has the largest number of hits for one day; we had 178 of them on that day. Leo does not know why that would be such a big day. Leo is doing an update to the Table of Contents for the "Quarterly". The June "Quarterly" will be given out in July.
10. Susie Ganch, Quarterly Chairman, reported that the June "Quarterly" is almost finished. June 1 is the deadline for getting articles in for the June "Quarterly". Susie said that she has gotten a lot of good stuff from the members. She has a page for B.A.G.S. News, information on the speakers for April, May, and June. She has something about the speakers coming up and the Freeman Library display. It is expensive to do the "Quarterly" in color. Resa Hennings said that would have cost \$1.25 a quarterly to put color on the front which would be \$250.00 for 200 copies. It runs a little over \$2.00 an issue to print now; it can be e-mailed to CopyDr. In Friendswood. Susie wanted to

put a price for back issues in the back of the "Quarterly". It was suggested \$5.00 per issue or \$15.00 for a year of them. They were sold at a meeting in Galveston for \$15.00 for a year. The "Quarterly" is supposed to be historical and research. She would like to put in Bible pages either transcribed or copied from the ancestors of the members. We would tell who has the Bible. Our "Quarterly" is in the Georgia State Archives because her brother works there. Alice Braud-Jones suggested that members could sponsor sending quarterlies to libraries. Maybe, a Quarterly Staff member could do this as a project.

11. Jeanine Lawrence reported that Barbara Stanley, Librarian, said that the Baytown Genealogical Society picked up all of our books and literature. Neil Misrendino has some more items to send them.
12. Leona Cook, Publicity Chairman, reported that she will continue in her position. Gloria Dypuy cannot attend the board meetings, but she is willing to continue helping Leona. Leona said that they could have a third member who could attend the board meetings in her absence. We are advertised in nine weeklies and 4 publications. The Bay Area Printing Monthly Newsletters has a deadline by the 15th of the preceding month. These articles go in the Clear Lake Community in Clear Lake West, South Shore, Pearland, and Friendswood newsletters. They state that the general meeting is always the last Sunday of each month. Sometimes, they have a speaker change that causes a problem. Leona has tried to cover other things. They will not do a lengthy elaborate article. They just want the bare bones information that tells the contact person, where, when, who and what. They work on the space that is available. We can try to do something like the Freeman Library Display. Resa said that the "Citizen" will take articles that we write and pictures. We submitted an article when we had officers sworn in. Shirley Lindquist said that she talked to Mary Alice at the "Citizen", and she would not put in an article for her.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Alice Braud-Jones will be involved in Long Range Planning.
2. We need a Member Services replacement. Ron Cox will do new member packets for the next three months.
3. Alice said that we could contact other societies, have a group meeting, and talk about ideas and classes maybe in August. Some that she mentioned were: League City Genealogical Society and Texas City Genealogical Society. Alice suggested that we could plan a trip to the Fort Worth Archives. There have been no people to sign up for a trip to Salt Lake City.
4. Shirley Lindquist collected a few job descriptions from people that need to be reviewed. We need a task force or a committee to look at them. Some of them look out of date; they need to be done for the coming year.

Ron adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Leonard Martin

Mary Leonard Martin
Recording Secretary