

Sussex County Genealogical Society

October 2005 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Place: Rehoboth Beach Public Library  
Upstairs Meeting Room  
226 Rehoboth Avenue  
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware 19971

Meeting Date: October 15, 2005

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Audrey Sensale at 10:35 A.M.

President's Remarks: Welcome to the second general meeting of our second year. Since our September meeting, we have had a bus trip to Washington, DC and were represented at the October 1st conference on Searching for Common Ground , a Genealogical Summit sponsored by and held at the Delaware Public Archives. At the conference, 10 organizations located on the Delmarva Peninsula met to inform each other of their purpose and activities in order to understand each other better and to realize the diversity of activities offered. The conference objectives were accomplished and the plan to make this an annual meeting is a good one

Surgeon General Carmona has declared Thanksgiving to be National Family History Day. Thanksgiving is the traditional start of the holiday season for most Americans and she has suggested that when families gather that they talk about and write down the health problems that seem to run in their family. Learning about your family's health history may help ensure a longer future together.

Secretary's Report: Jim Blakeslee read the minutes of the September 17, 2005 meeting as Secretary Nancy Purchase was not present. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Gene Chap was not present. President Audrey Sensale reported that the treasurer had informed her via mail that the amounts in the bank accounts were about the same as the previous month.

Membership's Report: Carolyn Miller reported four guests present. She also reported on two upcoming genealogical meetings.

On October 20th at 7:00 P.M. the Bridgeville Genealogical Discussion Group will meet at the St. Mary's Episcopal Church Parish Hall on William Street. Neil Keddie will speak on The History of Your Family is the History of America.

On October 26th at 7:00 P.M. the Lower Delmarva Genealogical Society will meet at 116-1 North Division Street (across from the Old Courthouse) in Salisbury, MD. John Lyons will speak on Delmarva Peninsula land records.

If anyone is interested in attending either of these meetings, please contact Carolyn about carpooling.

Other Committee Reports: Since many of the committee chairpersons were not present, Audrey Sensale reported on the following:

- o DC bus trip is scheduled for Tuesday, November 1st. The cost is \$23 and if interested please call Judy Lally to reserve your seat.
- o Discussion Group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18th. Ralph Nelson will discuss Learning to Use Family Group Records and Timelines.
- o Discussion Group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25th. Audrey Sensale will discuss Organizing Workshop Notes and Handouts.
- o Meeting brochures from other organizations and other handouts are available on the side table. Among the handouts are Make Family Health History a Tradition - 10 Questions to Ask Your Family and copies of Richard Hutchinson's handouts from last month's meeting on Family Tree DNA.
- o Monthly meetings often end abruptly and may cut off an interesting conversation you would like to pursue. For this reason we have gotten permission from the Library Director to stay longer than the scheduled meeting. However, please make sure that all tables and chairs are put away and when you leave please notify the Library staff so they can lock the elevator and stairway.
- o Concerns have been expressed that the SCGS web site is not being used to obtain information on upcoming activities. Audrey Sensale asked the members present for a show of hands on the use of the web site and about half the members present indicated they check the web site regularly. For members who do not know the web site is [www.scgsdelaware.org](http://www.scgsdelaware.org). Also the web site now has the current and past newsletters.
- o Concerns have been expressed by Tom Roche that emails reminding members of upcoming meetings and general announcements are being filtered or screened out by the members' computers. Audrey asked if any one present was not getting Tom's email, she received no response.
- o Next general meeting will be November 19, 2005 when Nancy Lyons will speak on "Searching Your Irish Roots."
- o Donations of \$1 for the Library Book Fund will be taken at the end of the meeting for those you wish to contribute.

Old Business/New Business: No new or old business.

Program: Agnes Brien introduced the guess speaker, Shirley Herndon. Shirley gave an informative presentation on Alternate Censuses and Schedules.

Adjournment: Agnes Brien moved to adjourn the meeting and Tom Roche seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35A.M.

Submitted by: James Blakeslee

