

SUSSEX COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
General Membership Meeting
December 17, 2011

President Diann Sherwin called the meeting to order at 10:35 am at the Rehoboth Public Library. She welcomed the members.

The minutes of November 19th were approved as read.

Al Lister, **Vice President, reported on Programs**. He referred to the listing just read in the approved minutes and also noted programs are on our web site. The January 21, 2012 meeting will be Peggy Fisher presenting on The Melungeons.

The **Treasurer**, Carolyn Miller, reported the beginning balance in the operating checking had been \$4,258.92. There had been deposits of \$75.00 and expenses of \$63.50 which resulted in a closing balance of \$4,270.42.

Nancy Purchase, **Membership Chair** reported that we have 110 members with 15 being households. There had been 33 attendees at the November meeting.

Ways and Means Chair Cathy Hudson announced that today's 50/50 contained \$48.00. The Conference Fund had a beginning balance of \$2,041.22. The deposits were \$804.50. Expenses associated with the Antique Appraisal and Bake Sale events were \$58.66. In addition the \$200.00 deposit with the fire hall had been fully refunded for a closing balance of \$2,987.06. She also noted that \$10.00 had been from the sale of a magnifying glass and \$24 had been from October's raffle. Cathy thanked the membership for the many ways they had supported these events.

Cathy reported that work on the April 28th conference is progressing well. Brochures should be available in January and she asked all to help get the word out to promote attendance as well as coming themselves. She mentioned some of the speakers already lined up such as Rebecca Koford, Chuck Mason, and Ed Wright.

The committee has worked from last year's wrap up report to prevent a repeat of problems encountered. This year there will also be events on Friday. While these are still in formation they are anticipated to include a walking tour of the register of wills, the recorder of deeds, someone from the NABB Center, and a Meet & Greet in the evening that will be BYO, Buy Your Own.

The Committee is asking the Board Members to assume responsibility for each obtaining at least two \$50.00 sponsorships. All members are encouraged to help obtain support for the conference. Materials should be available in January to use in approaching potential supporters.

Marilyn McMahon, **Education Chair**, noted that Genealogy Bytes will meet January 5th from 2 to 4 pm at the Milton Library. The topic will be using Message Boards, Chat Rooms, Mailing Lists and Social Networking sites. Many members meet at the Miltonian for lunch at noon prior to the meetings. All are welcome. February or March will be Tom Dempsy speaking on organizing your materials: using computer folders.

On January 24th the Writing Your Family Story group will meet at noon at the Georgia House Restaurant in Millsboro. Again all are welcome.

Ralph Nelson, head of the **Speakers Bureau**, circulated a copy of the Spring course at DelTech, noting they have increased the cost to \$29.00 for each segment rather it is one or two sessions. He requested that members consider presenting one of the segments and offered to work with anyone willing to help.

Sally Nelson, Editor of **The Searcher**, our newsletter stated that there had been some difficulty with the recent electronic distribution and asked if anyone had not received it to please let her know. She thanked members for submitting materials for the newsletter and reminded us the next deadline is the January 21st meeting.

Announcements:

- Chuck Swift announced the availability of a booklet on the "Cemeteries Around Laurel, DE, Vol I." Interested members should see him.
- Nancy Purchase thanked those who had brought refreshments for the meeting.
- Shirley Herndon announced she would be presenting an 8 session course on Advanced Genealogy beginning on March 6th at the Milton Library. There is no charge for the sessions which begin at 10:00 am but preregistration through the library is requested. She is also doing a course in Camden.
- The Southern Delaware Choral Society is presenting a concert from 3 to 4 in Laurel at Old Christ Church tomorrow.
- The Bridgeville Genealogy Society meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:30 at the library and all are welcome.
- The Selbyville Genealogy group meets the 1st Friday of the month at 10:30 at the library and all are welcome.
- Only 106 days until the release of the 1940 census data!

The 50/50 drawing provided a prize of \$24.00, won by Carol Hedlund.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00.

While enjoying the array of cookies and treats members shared breakthroughs and projects of the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Hedlund, Secretary