

Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council

Thursday, 7 September 1995
The Connecticut Historical Society

Attending: Bob Bamford, Kathryn Black, W. B. Buchanan, Ron Cormier, Barbara Ferris, Norman Ingham, Harlan Jessup, Jack E. Kuras, Dianne B. Lenti, Barbara J. Mathews, Judy Plummer, Bob Rafford, Donna Siemiatkoski, Edwin W. Strickland, II, Helen Ullmann, Ted Wohlson

Business Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Donna Siemiatkoski, who read an announcement from the Connecticut State Library stating that member Richard C. Roberts has been named Unit Head of the History and Genealogy Unit at the library. This position was formerly held by member Ted Wohlson, recently retired. *We voted to send a note of congratulations to Dick.*

The minutes were accepted with two alterations on a motion by Jack Kuras seconded by Judy Plummer. The alterations were to replace the phrase "Member Robert Rafford suggested..." with "A member suggested..." as Robert Rafford was not the member who spoke. Second, the reference on page 2 to the National Genealogical Society should be changed to the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

Barbara Mathews reported that the society has \$283.19 in funds, most of which is earmarked for the next printing of the Member List.

with Two members were present for the first time. Norman Ingham researches in Connecticut Valley records, ~~which~~ *with* particular emphasis on Old Saybrook. Edwin Strickland, II, is President of the Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor and was the group's founding Genealogist. He specializes on Connecticut Valley families, particularly those of Windsor.

Donna Siemiatkoski reported on the new budget of the Connecticut State Library. ~~Roger~~ *Richard* Ackroyd has told her that the budget is essentially level from the last period.

The Connecticut State Library now has US censuses through 1850 on film not only for the six New England states but for New York state as well. Note that the corresponding printed statewide indexes can be found at the Connecticut Historical Society.

Warren Buchanan reported on the efforts of the Legislative Committee. The committee is seeking a meeting with Mrs. ~~Robinson~~ *Robertson*, the Chair of the Health Committee to discuss concerns about legislation regarding access to vital records.

Donna Siemiatkoski will continue to present a genealogists' column for the newsletter put out by John Boccacio, Registrar of Vital Statistics, for Town Clerks. Subjects for upcoming columns include covering the fact that all vital records before 1900 are open to all, regardless of their possible membership in a genealogical society. She also reported that the volunteer program at the Department of Public Health is going very well.

Kathryn Black reported that CPGC has received an anonymous donation of a year's membership in the Federation of Genealogical Societies. This membership includes voting privileges at the FGS convention, discount privileges for all CPGC members ordering FGS publications, and two copies of the Forum newsletter. CPGC will be donating one copy of the Forum to the Connecticut Historical Society while the discount coupons and second copy of the Forum will be kept by Kathryn Black. Any CPGC members wishing to order publications should speak directly with her regarding discounting. All CPGC members may subscribe to the Forum for \$9 per year.

Judith Johnson reminded us that the parking lot to the Hartford side of CHS has been rented out for a year. All must now park in the lot accessed from Elizabeth Street. In addition, all parking slips near the

front door have now been designated as handicapped parking. She also reported that the ~~CPGC~~ volunteer project at the Connecticut Historical Society regarding the "basement" records is proceeding very well.

Harlan Jessup reported that he was able to obtain several copies of the brochure from the Association of Professional Genealogists about How to Hire a Genealogist. He gave these copies to Barbara Mathews who can furnish them to members as needed.

Helen Ullmann opened a discussion regarding whether to set our meeting time a half hour earlier. After a discussion and straw poll, we decided not to change our October meeting, but to discuss again whether to change the time of the November meeting.

There was a general discussion about the New England Regional Genealogical Conference planned this coming October for Burlington, Vermont. Donna Siemiatkoski will be ~~putting together~~ ^{escort} a bus to start at New Haven and make stops up I-91 en route to the conference. This bus is sponsored by the Regional Conference Coordinating Committee. Connecticut Heritage Services will have a booth at the conference. Donna Siemiatkoski offered to include brochures from CPGC members there; any such brochures must be sent to her prior to October 12th.

Only two members who were present at the meeting plan to attend. Several members felt that the program lacked depth on "professional" issues. We discussed the structure of the coordinating committee, the financial requirements placed on participating societies, and the fact that the next conference is planned for April 1997 in southern New England, perhaps even Connecticut. On a motion by Bob Rafford seconded by Kathryn Black, we agreed to look further into the requirements for participation and to report back later.

Ron Cormier announced an upcoming Franco Fest week in Connecticut. This year's festival marks the first recognition of Acadians among the participants. There are plans to have a governor's proclamation of the event.

On a motion by Kathryn Black the business meeting was adjourned.

Presentation:

Bob Rafford presented a lecture on the issues involved in creating a professional report.

*The next meeting of the
Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council
will be at 10:00 AM on
Thursday, October 5, 1995
at the Connecticut State Library
in the conference room.
We will continue our discussion of the Client Report.*