

Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council

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JANUARY 1998 MINUTES

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WE ARE OPEN TO ALL THOSE WHO PROVIDE GENEALOGY FOR OTHERS OR MANAGE COLLECTIONS OF RECORDS

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

THURS, FEB. 5, 1998- 10:00 a.m. - CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY (Conf. room opp. Lunch room)
PROGRAM: *Using References on the Historical Reference Shelf: Periodical Source Index (PERSI), and more* by Dick Roberts, Head, History and Genealogy Unit.

Thurs, March 6, 1998- 10:00 a.m. - CT Historical Society, Hartford CT. Program: Legislative Issues

CPGC MINUTES - THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1998. Attending: Donna Siemiatkoski, Dianne Lenti, Warren Buchanan, Lucille Shea, Gerald Cruthers, Harlan Jessup, Ken Buckbee, Kathryn Black, Robert Storm, Jack Kuras, Robert Rafford, Judith Johnson, Susan Field-Burguiere, and Barbara Mathews.

PROGRAM: Barbara Mathews presented *File Management; Making Life Easier for Professional Genealogists*, which was informative and helpful. She said "getting organized is a task" and suggested that we (1) be consistent, (2) establish a client database, (3) keep a logbook, (4) organize file folders, and (5) print our research log, activity log, invoice, etc on brightly colored paper for easier accessibility. Thanks to Barbara for an excellent presentation.

BUSINESS MEETING was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President, Donna Siemiatkoski.

General Announcements: Member Judith Johnson reviewed the new sign-in procedure at the CT Historical Society. Persons doing research in the library will sign in and present their library pass at the front desk. Susan Field-Burguiere stated that the Friends of Godfrey Library is now incorporated. Donna said the DFAW has regained their incorporation status. Member Judy Plummer is expected to return to Connecticut in the spring.

Secretary's report of December 4, 1997 was read and accepted. (1) Barbara Mathews (2) Kathryn Black.

Corresponding Secretary reviewed the latest mail and turned over member renewal checks to the Treas.

Treasurer's report was read and placed on file for audit with cash on hand of \$1819.46.

OLD BUSINESS: CT Vital Record Microfilming: Donna Siemiatkoski reported that the death records for 1897-1907 deaths have been returned from microfilming and have been verified frame by frame. The index, which will give the name, date and town of event, will be available in the future at the CT Dept of Health. The death records for 1908-1938 have been sent out for filming. It is expected we will be able to request an index check at some future date. Warren Buchanan reported that there is a good possibility that we may also be able to request a copy of the microfilmed 8x5 card for a fee. **CT Vital Record Storage:** Off site storage of records is currently at 80 Washington Street. Warren and Donna both understand that these may be moved to another site; possibly 150 Washington St. **State Historical Records Advisory Board:** President Donna Siemiatkoski appointed Warren Buchanan to be present in her absence at the January 30, 1998 meeting of the SHRAB at which the possible move of these records will be discussed, to report back to the February meeting and to formulate any recommended action plans by the Council. **California Vital Records Access:** Kathryn Black reported on past articles in the FGS *Forum* regarding access to vital records in California. In order to request records, a researcher must fill out a written request and show an ID **Massachusetts Vital Records:** Birth records are open, except when the father is not listed. The Massachusetts Society of Genealogists is an ever present watchdog group regarding vital record access in that state. **New York State Vital Records:** Births are open if more than 70 years old, and marriages and deaths if more than 50 years old. There are very few, if any, records before 1882 (spotty). A written request to NY state archives usually takes a 6 month turn around.

NEW BUSINESS: Digital Copyright Law: Tabled until February meeting when Dick Roberts will be asked to explain it further. **Bridgeport CT Vital Records:** Warren Buchanan reported that the death and marriage index cards have now been microfilmed on cassettes and the original cards destroyed. Jack Kuras mentioned that the **Hartford Probate Court** also has their records on a film cassette. **Booth Library in Newtown CT** is having a grand re-opening on Sunday Jan 11, 1998. Per Harlan Jessup, the library has a database index of vital records found in the Newtown Bee. **Newspaper Advisory Committee:** Donna Siemiatkoski is currently serving on this committee, which addresses which newspaper to microfilm next. Per Susan Field-Burguiere, the **American Biographical Genealogical Index**, compiled by the Godfrey Memorial Library, is reportedly within two years of completion.....**Adjourned:** 11:10 a.m. *Dianne B. Lenti, Recording Secretary*

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Activity Log

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Purchase Order No.: _____

Date of Initial Contact: _____ Referral from: _____

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Research Goal: _____

Surnames: _____

Number of Hours Set: _____ Initial Deposit Needed: \$ _____

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Date Report Sent: _____ Invoice Amount Due: \$ _____

Date Billed: _____ Date Rec'd: _____ Deposited: _____